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Champion
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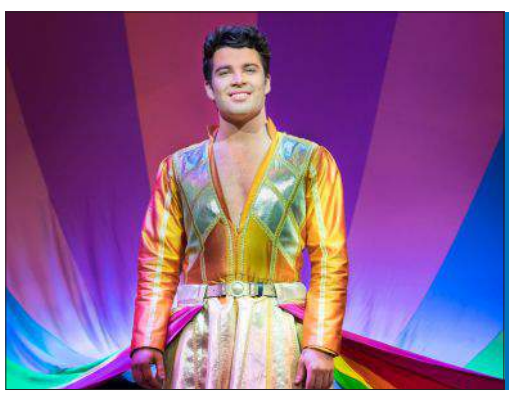

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ECUMENICAL CENTRE SET FOR REVAMP AFTER £1/2M LOTTERY AWARD

Report by **Henry James**

SKELMERSDALE Ecumenical Centre is set for a massive refurbishment after being awarded £499,000 investment from the Big Lottery Fund.

Officials at the centre in Northway say community and tenant groups will benefit from a range of new and improved facilities.

Currently around 300 people use the centre every week and the trustees hope that the improvement will enable more members of the community to access it.

Church bosses say the refurbished centre will broaden their services and ensure their centre is accessible to all.

The Ecumenical Centre is already an established multi-activity hub used for education, health, social and well-being activities.

However the redevelopment will enable the group to offer more support for people of all ages, whatever their needs. These are expected to include drop in services with information on welfare, health, well-being, social projects and services and a luncheon club with activities for elderly residents at risk of isolation.

Last year the church consulted with a wide range of people in the town who described the building as being in a poor state of repair and in need of modernisation; having a poor visual appearance and accessibility; and having outdated facilities.

The consultation also revealed concern that there was a decreasing range of facilities available to local groups in the Skelmersdale area with public buildings having closed leaving no alternative social infrastructure in the town centre. In addition, other facilities, typically small community centres in outlying estates, had been asset transferred and were no longer open all the time.

And although the Ecumenical Centre was regarded as a valuable asset but it was found to lack modern and accessible facilities forcing many residents to look outside the borough.

Rev Rick Preston outside the Ecumenical Centre

An artist's impression of what the renovated centre will look like

At present the centre provides a drop-in information service for local residents; a charity shop and clothes bank service and a Fair Trade coffee bar.

A range of other organisations also use the centre including the University of the Third Age; Scouts; Latvian Heritage and Latvian Dancing; karate; indoor bowling; NHS Stop Smoking Group; keep-fit groups including an armchair exercise group; the Skelmersdale Singers; a computer group for older people; New beginnings; and the Red Cross who operate a drop-in centre for migrants and refugees.

It also provides office space for the Birchwood the housing support project; the ARK education and training support group for the unemployed; Lancashire Community Finance providing financial education and money management services; and West Lancashire Foodbank which uses it as a base for the distribution of food parcels to local residents and families.

The chair of trustees, Jennifer MacKenzie said: "Thanks to our town centre

Continued inside

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West Lancs punter scoops £1million Euro lottery prize with online entry

AN anonymous punter from West Lancashire has become a millionaire after scooping one of the prizes in the Euromillions UK Millionaire Maker raffle with an online entry.

The lucky man, known only as Mr A, scooped the life-changing sum in the draw on Tuesday, September 12.

Mr A, whose occupation is listed as a director, has indicated that he will be paying off his mortgage with some of his winnings, while his first buy with his new-found wealth was a new iPhone.

Andy Carter, senior winners' advisor at The National Lottery, said: "Huge congratulations to Mr. A for winning this fantastic prize without even touching a ticket – after a few simple clicks he has become a millionaire!

"With many people leading busy lives, playing online is becoming increasingly popular. It means you can make sure your lucky numbers are always in the draw and your ticket is always checked."

Those who play interactively have their numbers checked automatically and are notified via email when they have won.

Lancashire's police and crime commissioner Clive Grunshaw with officers and the three specially liveried cars

Constabulary launch two more 'Police with Pride' cars to highlight campaign against hate crime

FOLLOWING on from the successful launch of Lancashire Police's liveried Police with Pride car earlier this year, the force have now added two other cars to their fleet to underline their commitment to stamping out all strands of hate crime.

Report by **Henry James**

All three cars will be fully operational and utilised around the county and have been liveried at no extra cost to the force.

The two additional cars have been introduced to encourage people to report hate crimes in all areas, whether it be race, religion, disability or lifestyle and follows research by the LGB&T (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) charity, Stonewall, which indicates that crimes within the Trans and bi-sexual community, in particular, are massively under reported.

Deputy chief constable Sunita Gamblin said: "Lancashire has a diverse community and as such it's important for us to understand the differing community needs and support those differing requirements.

"The feedback from our Police with Pride car has been extremely positive, however it highlighted that other strands need to be recognised."

Clive Grunshaw, Lancashire's police and crime commissioner, added: "This is a clear statement about our commitment to combating hate crime in all its forms throughout the county, demonstrating that the police are aware of their local communities and keen to reflect them in everything they do.

"These cars are just one aspect of the work being done across Lancashire to tackle hate crime and help victims get the support they need through Lancashire Victim Services which I launched earlier this year. Anything that encourages the public to report incidents to the police or seek support can only be a good thing."

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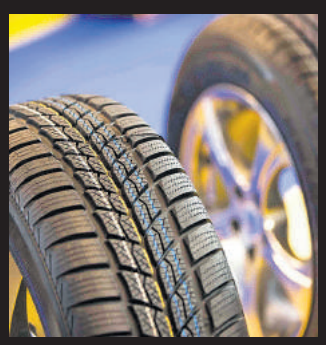

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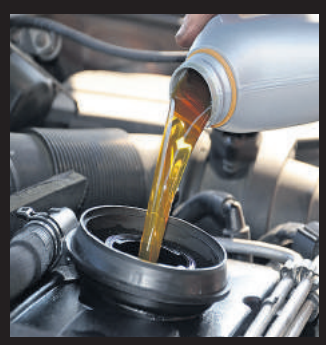

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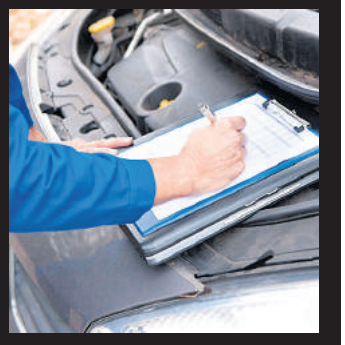

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Cancer support centre to stage open day

A NEW cancer information and support centre in Skelmersdale is hosting an open day on Friday, September 29 at the Concourse Shopping Centre.

The Macmillan Centre in the Concourse opened last month and has a team of experts and trained volunteers on hand to answer questions from patients, carers, friends and families.

Support for the centre is also being provided by NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group, West Lancashire CVS and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust cancer services.

The open day will also support Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning and will run from 2 to 4pm. Cake donations are welcome.

Caroline Flynn, Macmillan information and support services manager for West Lancashire, said: "We welcome everyone to our open day in our new home to find out more about what we offer.

"Our centre is a time out from the cancer clinic where you'll find a listening ear and information on everything from local support groups to help for the financial problems cancer may create."

The open day will run 2 to 4pm in the Concourse Shopping Centre, Skelmersdale, L39 6NL.

For more information, contact Caroline and the team on 01695 656533.

Caroline Flynn and Jodie Taylor at Macmillan information and advice centre in Skelmersdale Concourse shopping centre.

Men arrested after police pursuit of suspected stolen car through Southport

MERSEYSIDE Police have arrested four men - including three from Skelmersdale - following a brief pursuit involving a suspected stolen vehicle in Southport on Thursday, September 14.

At around 7.10pm, a suspected stolen blue Vauxhall Vectra came to the attention of patrols on Hillside Road, Birkdale.

Following a brief pursuit, which was halted when the suspected stolen vehicle was driven the wrong way down a road, the suspects drove away but the car was later found to have collided with two other vehicles, a black Ford Fiesta and blue Ford Kuga, on Scarisbrick New Road.

The occupants are believed to have left the car on foot before patrols arrived.

A search of the area was undertaken by officers, assisted by information called in by witnesses and members of the public, and four men were swiftly arrested.

Search

A lock knife was also found during a search of the route that the stolen car had taken.

A 22-year-old from Skelmersdale was arrested on suspicion of aggravated taking of a motor vehicle, taking a motor vehicle without consent and possession of a Class B drug (cannabis).

A 23-year-old man from Skelmersdale was arrested on suspicion of taking a motor vehicle without consent.

And a 25-year-old from Skelmersdale was arrested on suspicion of aggravated taking of a motor vehicle, taking a motor vehicle without consent and possession of a Class B drug (cannabis).

A 23-year-old man, of no fixed abode, was arrested on suspicion of aggravated taking of a motor vehicle, failing to stop after a collision, and possession of a Class B drug (cannabis).

They were all taken to a police station in Merseyside to be interviewed.

The Vauxhall is believed to have been stolen from the Greater Manchester area. It has been recovered for further enquiries to be carried out.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Roads Policing on 0151 777 5747 or call Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Got a story? Ring the Champ News Desk Tel. 01704 392400

Funding agreed to take town's proposed rail link plans to next stage

Report by **Henry James**

PROPOSALS for a rail link to Skelmersdale - the second largest town in the North West without a rail connection - have received a boost as funding has been agreed to take the plans to the next stage in development.

Merseytravel will be contributing up to £765,000 to the work, adding to £4.32m already set aside by Lancashire County Council to further build the case for both a new station at Headbolt Lane in Knowsley, and for a new railway branch line to Skelmersdale town centre.

The plan would see Merseyrail services extended on from the current terminus at Kirkby station to serve Headbolt Lane, Rainford and Skelmersdale.

Skelmersdale would become the new interchange for Merseyrail and Northern Services on to Wigan and Manchester.

Merseytravel has said the next step in planning will involve looking in more detail at a potential solution, developing a train service timetable to inform track design, as well as looking at the impact of a potential rail freight connection to the Knowsley Industrial Park and other surveys to understand land use, geology and land ownership.

Should a strong business case for the scheme be developed and appropriate funding - currently estimated to be in the region of £300m - be identified and secured, the scheme could be delivered within 10 years.

Merseyrail's new trains will be running on the existing network from 2020, and trials to run them beyond the existing electrified 'third rail' track could help inform the scope of the Skelmersdale scheme, potentially meaning that major changes to install electrified track wouldn't be needed.

Councillor Liam Robinson

Developments in Northern trains over the next few years could also remove the requirement for lineside infrastructure and power connections as part of the project.

The Skelmersdale Project is led by Lancashire County Council, involving Merseytravel, West Lancashire Borough Council, Merseyrail, Northern Rail and Network Rail.

Councillor Liam Robinson, chair of the Liverpool City Region Transport Committee which oversees the work of Merseytravel, said: "Our contribution to the next stage in building the case for a new station at Headbolt Lane and new rail connections to Skelmersdale is putting the Liverpool City Region's Long Term Rail Strategy into action.

"While it's still early days in a scheme that would come at significant expense, we want to help drive forward better rail connections across the City Region and beyond, better linking people to jobs and other opportunities."

County Councillor Keith Iddon, Lancashire County Council's cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "Delivering a rail connection is vital to the future prosperity of Skelmersdale and will improve people's job opportunities, and act as a catalyst for further investment from businesses and developers.

POTENTIAL

"Skelmersdale is a large town and should be connected to the rail network. The initial feasibility study which has already been done as part of the GRIP process shows this should deliver good value for money.

"This further study will establish some of the detail that we need to make a full business case for the significant funding that will be needed to deliver this scheme, and marks another important milestone in its development."

And Councillor John Hodson, West Lancashire Borough Council's portfolio holder for planning, commented: "Here in West Lancashire we recognise the transformative potential of having a railway station in Skelmersdale and its relevance within the Liverpool City Region Strategic perspective and the wider role it will play in the North West Region.

"This is welcome news indeed and we will continue to work with our partners to achieve our mutual goals including the building of a much-needed railway station in Skelmersdale."

henry.james@champnews.com

Men-Aces triumph in England v Scotland clash

SKELMERSDALE Men-Aces have clocked up the miles to play Scotland's Special Olympics Team in Glasgow.

The West Lancashire team played two games and were successful in the England versus Scotland clash.

Mim Eaton from the Men-Aces said: "It was the unknown factor that gave us butterflies. We were greeted to a warm welcome, the lads had very little time as the journey was a bit damp to say the least, but it didn't dampen the spirits.

"A lot of supporters came out for this England versus Scotland clash. There were plenty of smiles and banter to go with it, and we came up trumps. Their manager said we won because we played as a team, a great team."

The match was watched by Scottish sculptor, Jason Patterson, who was so impressed he took Skem Men-Aces on a tour of Glasgow.

He showed the team some of his sculptures and told them about a few more he had made which were around the world. He then took the team for a meal.

Mim added: "A total of eight hungry Men-aces plus coaches were treated to a lovely meal and lovely company. The trip back was eventful and we had every storm coming at us in every direction, but we got home very late, but safe."

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Town's Beer, Food and Wine Festival returns for third year

ORMSKIRK Cricket Club and The Cricketers pub are hosting the town's third Beer, Food and Wine festival this weekend.

The festival will take place at the cricket club on Altys Lane and run from Friday to Sunday, September 22 to 24, featuring a real ale bar with 80 hand-pulled real ales and a street food market.

Sunday will be a family day with bouncy castles and various stalls for children.

Dave Speak, manager of The Cricketers, said the festival has grown year on year. "It's a great event for the town and hugely popular."

Opening times are 5 to 10pm on Friday and 11am to 7pm on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets, priced £3, will be available on the day. More information is available at www.facebook/ormksirkfestival.

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Hospital trust and charity defend decision not to stock The Sun

THE charity that runs shops at Ormskirk and Southport hospitals has defended a decision not to sell The Sun national newspaper at the sites.

In a move supported by Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust the paper was removed from sale there some weeks ago.

A Champion reader contacted us calling on hospital chiefs to explain the decision not to stock it saying: "I appreciate that the Hillsborough tragedy was devastating for relatives and friends concerned, and understand those closest to the tragedy, by their choice, would want to boycott the newspaper.

"However surely other readers (who do want to read this newspaper) should have the 'freedom of choice' to purchase it?"

A spokeperson for Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust said that the shops in both hospitals are managed by volunteers from the Royal Voluntary Society and offered the following statement in support of the decision not to sell the newspaper: "In line with other newsagents across Merseyside, the trust does not sell The Sun newspaper in either of its hospital shops."

The infamous Sun article about the Hillsborough tragedy that sparked outrage and led to the paper being boycotted in many areas

Mark Olliver, director of retail operations for Royal Voluntary Service said: "We have spent time reviewing the demand for The Sun across all our Merseyside retail sites and after recognising the local feelings towards the newspaper decided to withdraw it from sale across all of our sites in the region."

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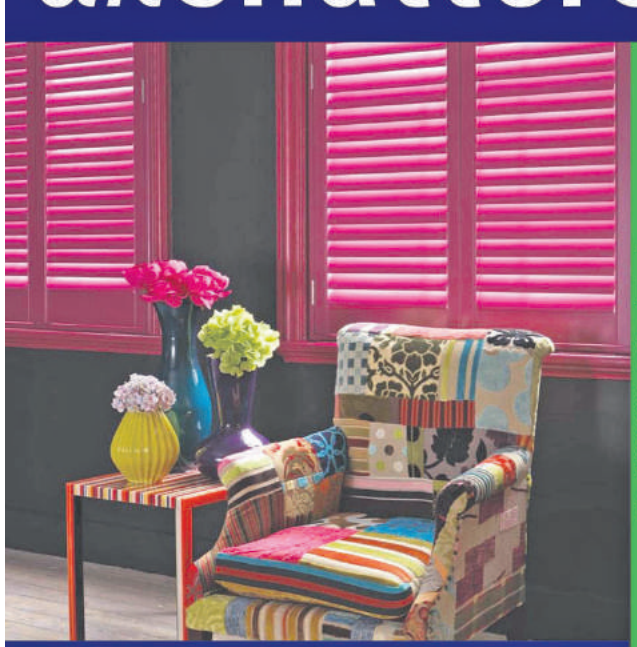

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Driver's trip to retrieve wife's medicine landed him 18-month ban

By our **Court Reporter**

A SKELMERSDALE man caught drink-driving was retrieving medication for his sick wife, a court has heard.

Bogda Alexa, 32, of Acregate, Digmoor, was stopped by a police patrol while driving an Audi A2 in Peel Road, Bootle, on Saturday, August 26 after automatic number plate recognition equipment detected that he was driving with no insurance.

When officers spoke with him they noticed the smell of alcohol on his breath.

When Alexa appeared at Sefton Magistrates Court on September 13, prosecutor Angela Blackmore said that he failed a roadside breath test and was subsequently tested again at the police station where he was found to be driving with 88 micrograms of alcohol in 100ml of breath, the legal limit being 35mcg/100ml.

He had a certificate of insurance to drive the car for one hour, but that had expired the day before, she said.

Solicitor Melanie Tomlinson defending said that Alexa's wife suffers from severe back problems. He and his wife had been visiting a friend earlier in the day but after returning home his wife realised that the she had left her medication behind.

She said that Alexa had only just bought the car and had insured it the previous day to take a friend to the airport. He was insured for another car but in his haste he had taken the wrong car.

In relation to the drink-driving, she said: "Stupidly he went to his friend's address to collect the medication. He realised that he was wrong but because she was in severe pain, that was the reason he went."

Ms Tomlinson said that the inevitable driving ban was going to cause problems for his wife who relies on him to take her to work.

The magistrates fined him £100, ordered that he pay £115 in costs and victim surcharge, and banned him from driving for 18 months.

Bank staff raise £900-plus for Alder Hey charity

BIG-hearted bank staff based in Skelmersdale have completed another impressive fundraising effort on behalf of a worthy cause.

Employees at the Co-Operative Bank's Delf House contact centre in Southway collected a total of £934 by holding cake sales, raffles and dress down days in aid of Alder Hey Children Hospital's Ronald McDonald House.

They decided to support the charity, part of the Alder Hey Family House Trust Ltd. after one of their colleagues, Jenny Carter, stayed at the house when her little boy had to undergo open-heart surgery at the age of just nine months.

Jenny was able to stay at the house free for a week to be near her son before and after his operation. There is no charge for families of patients with the trust relying totally on donations to finance the project.

The youngster has now thankfully been discharged and is doing well.

Gillian Wilson, charity co-ordinator for the trust, went along to Delf House to collect the donation.

She told the bank staff: "We are an independent charity and rely on the public for donations to help us provide the service we do. Even small amounts can help to make a big difference, £25 pays for a family to stay in the facility for one night.

"We thank you so much for your support."

Gillian Wilson (2nd left) receives the donations from Bev Hayman, Jennifer Carter and Remi Jeffers of Skelmersdale's Co-Operative Bank contact centre.

Skem firm wins grant to develop safer packaging prototype

A CONSORTIUM of organisations led by Skelmersdale-based secondary packaging company, TrakRap has been awarded a grant by Innovate UK to develop a prototype that could change the way aerosols are packaged and improve industry safety.

The consortium, which comprises leading logistics company DHL, the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC) in Coventry and the University of Bradford, plans to use the funding to build a prototype stretch wrapping packaging machine specifically for use in the aerosol industry, to replace the shrink wrapping systems which are currently used.

The use of shrink wrapping to package aerosols is inherently dangerous as the high temperatures required to shrink the film carry significant explosion risks.

The grant was secured from Innovate UK, the agency responsible for driving scientific and technological innovations to grow the UK economy, following the successful completion of a proof of concept.

The proposed prototype eliminates the need for high temperatures entirely by using a 100% recyclable polymer stretch film.

Its innovative technology will also reduce energy requirements by more than 90% and reduce the use of plastics by in excesss of 60% compared to current shrink wrapping technologies, offering additional financial and environmental benefits to users.

DHL will provide the production line on which the finished prototype machine will run for several months under manufacturing conditions, while MTC will model the prototype machine in a virtual factory, allowing the design to be tested and amended before physical production occurs.

Martin Leeming

The University of Bradford will evaluate the performance and characteristics of various films to ascertain their suitability for use with the machine.

Martin Leeming, chief executive of TrakRap, which is based in Gorsey Place, East Gillibrands, said: "It's no secret that aerosols present significant challenges to the packaging industry; they are pressurised and highly inflammable by design, so the need to protect them - and those working with them - at every stage of the packaging process is of paramount importance.

"Historically, packaging manufacturers have been able to get around the problem by using traditional packaging methods, but a safe, energy efficient solution which sets the bar for the whole industry is still required.

"With the backing of Innovate UK, and the support of our partners, we're confident that we will be able to provide it."

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MP tackles county council over Blue Badge complaints

Report by **Henry James**

ROSIE Cooper has criticised Lancashire County Council over the way its Blue Badge scheme is run following a number of complaints from constituents.

The West Lancs MP says she has been inundated with reports by residents in the borough of major issues regarding their applications for and renewals of the badges.

These included some people waiting six weeks or more for a response, despite being told that applications would be dealt with in four weeks.

The MP also told of one woman who struggles with arthritis having her Blue Badge renewal refused as a result of no longer making hospital appointments because she had seen no progress in the alleviating of her pain after two years.

Another said she has had her badge rescinded after 20 years, while a man complained of being given conflicting information after he was initially approved pending the submission of a photo but was then told the application was on hold pending the submission of further medical evidence.

Concerns have also been raised over the online application system, with some residents not having access to the IT required and some struggling with operating the system and uploading the necessary documentation and photos.

Rosie Cooper said: "What I am hearing from residents is much dissatisfaction with the current application process for the Blue Badge scheme.

"Some residents are finding their badges taken off them or not being renewed after many years without clear explanation and others are being given the run-around by Lancashire County Council.

"Government changes to the scheme were instituted after the 2010 General Election, so any changes resulting would have already been in place so I don't know why the sudden burst of refusals.

"This situation is bad enough as it is, but when it is added on top of an online system which many of the applicants struggle to use - some don't even have IT and Internet access - then it becomes an absolute nightmare.

"The bottom line is that many of the people who are forced to or feel the need to apply for a Blue Badge are often our most vulnerable, be they the elderly or the disabled, and the county council needs to ensure the resources are in place to deliver a fair, and prompt service.

"For many of these people, the Blue Badge is not just a parking permit but a way of ensuring they don't become isolated within their communities - it's their access to food shopping, it's their access to doctors and hospitals.

"I have written to Lancashire County Council calling for them to ensure the Blue Badge scheme is fully resourced and sort the many issues my residents are reporting."

Lancashire County Council has been contacted for comment.

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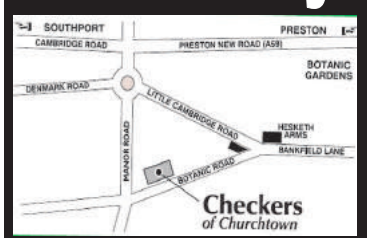

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Sarah proudly displays her trophy with some of the cadets looking on

Sarah adds to cadets' silverware haul - with a little help from The Champ!

MEMBERS of the 1439 Skelmersdale Air Cadets are celebrating another trophy - thanks to a little help from the Champion!

Sarah O'Sullivan, the squadron's committee chair, received The Public Relations Trophy at this year's Merseyside Wing Field Training Day awards event.

Throughout the year Sarah has reported on Skelmersdale Air Cadets' progress and achievements in various media sources.

For each published report the squadron received points and Sarah managed to score a staggering 189 points for the year earning the local cadets first place out of 30 Squadrons in the Wing.

She said: "I am really chuffed and proud that all the hard work with newspaper articles, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram postings has paid off.

"I would also mention all the fantastic photographs taken by our resident photographer - my husband, Kevin. I think we make a great media team together!

"However, none of this reporting would have been possible without our fantastic cadets and staff who have achieved and worked so hard this year, it made our job a lot easier.

"I would also like to give a very special thank-you to Champion Newspapers who have given us continued support in publishing our news when we send achievement articles to them.

"Thank you very much, we at 1439 Squadron are very grateful."

Fundraising campaign to save Glenburn pitch for town is under starter's orders

THE group behind proposals to move the disused £650,000 state-of-the-art 3G floodlit Astroturf 11-a-side pitch from the former Glenburn Sports College to Delph Side Community Primary School are holding a fundraising night.

The Race Night at Lancashire Manor Hotel will be held on Friday, September 29 and the group are hoping that the night will help them with their goal of collecting £250,000.

Jo Whitfield, school business manager at Delph Side, said: "The evening will be a fun-packed night of entertainment, including racing and live music.

"There will be live music from Andy Crawford and tickets are available from the school."

Staff at Delph Side, on behalf of the SHARES group of schools, have been in negotiations with Lancashire County Council regarding the future of the Glenburn pitch and infrastructure since spring of last year.

Campaigners do not want to see a "fantastic resource" lost when the Glenburn site is demolished.

The group want to install the pitch at the school which is based on Eskdale in Tanhouse.

Kevin Davidson, chief executive officer of SHARES Lancashire, wrote on the group's campaign page: "The opportunity to save the 3G pitches, which were based at Glenburn, for the cluster of primary schools in Skelmersdale and Up Holland to use, is just too good to miss.

The sports facilities at the former Glenburn Sports College

"We sorely lack facilities in Skelmersdale and the children and families of this town deserve to have access to a good range of activity and health facilities."

The fundraising page of the campaign can be found at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kids-footy.

Ecumenical Centre set for revamp after £1/2M lottery award

From Page1

minister, the Reverend Rick Preston, we now have the means to make our centre fully modernised, accessible and attractive!

"As a resident of Skem, I want my neighbours to know that the churches of different denominations are working together and really do care. It is very important for our community to have at its heart a sacred space that is open to all to benefit individuals, social groups, and community-minded organisations and businesses."

Reverend Rick Preston added: "The Ecumenical Centre has for many years been at the heart of Skelmersdale serving the local community.

"Our success in the Big Lottery bid will help us to do even more. As a church we have listened to the needs of the community, needs that are so often ignored.

"We know people want to have a safe place to come, meet, to access vital services. We know that many community groups want a place they can safely hold their activities. This bid will enable us to do this. We are grateful to the Lottery Fund and all those who have supported our bid."

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Historic rail journeys being recreated in 3D at Edge Hill

HISTORIC UK rail journeys on iconic locomotives are being recreated for the first time in 3D thanks to Edge Hill University.

A team of academics and students, working alongside volunteers from primary schools and Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Society, have plotted the routes of locomotives as they were around 100 years ago using Bradshaw's 1906 railway timetable, travelling across the country through current and long forgotten stations.

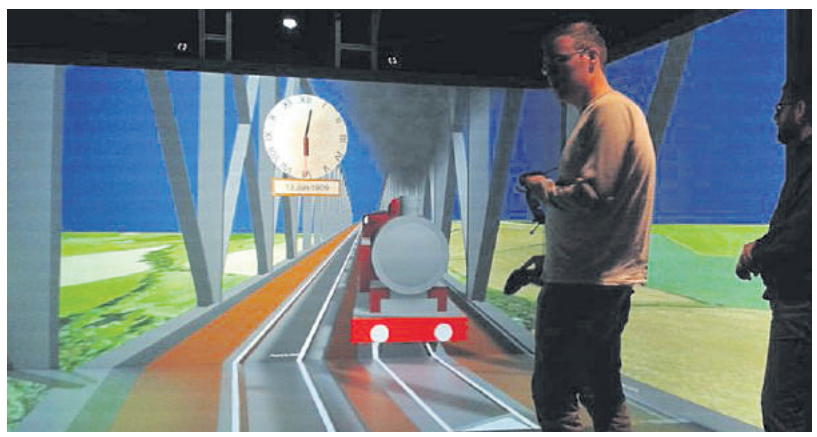
Initially focussing on lines across Liverpool, Lancashire and Yorkshire, the project will be rolled out creating the possibility of virtual journeys across the UK's entire rail network.

Professor Mark Anderson, director of the Research Centre for Data and Complex Systems at Edge Hill, who is leading the programme with Honorary Research Fellow, Brian Farrimond, said: "This is really exciting as it has never been done before.

"Our 3D parametric modelling programme allows us to use the power of 3D graphics to bring our industrial heritage to life. By using Bradshaw's timetables we're able to visualise heritage railways operating as they did in their heyday.

"The computer software can be used by children and adults with very little tuition to create complex, dynamic models and visualisations.

"Using these timetables, alongside original documents and photographs, we're able to accurately recreate locomotives, stations and scenery such as bridges and buildings."



Historic UK rail journeys are being recreated in 3D at Edge Hill University

He added: "We've also used old engineering plans to bring legendary trains such as the Aspinall 0-6-0 and the Atlantic Highflyer to life, alongside models of engines that were planned but never built including the Flamme.

"This computer programme allows us to create whatever we want, buildings, scenarios, objects including things which never existed or just made it to the planning stage.

"We can take these locomotives apart visually and view them from different angles and perspectives allowing users to view the journey from unique perspectives."

The Ormskirk university will now create an online 3D parametric modelling community environment to enable schools and volunteers to showcase their work and collaborate online. It will help volunteers link up sections of railway track creating virtual journeys across the UK.

This latest programme builds on the success of earlier versions of the 3D modelling tool including ChurchBuilder, software to create tours and video of churches; ThingBuilder, to build animated models of ships, coaches and wagons; and ScenarioBuilder to create and visualise scenarios such as paddle steamers on the River Mersey in 1909.

Anyone wishing to volunteer is asked to email brian.farrimond@edgehill.ac.uk.

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Fitting send-off planned for Dunkirk veteran Len

Skem Ex Services Association to provide guard of honour

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Above: Len pictured in 1943 and (right) at the Remembrance Day Service at Ormskirk Parish Church in 2011

A DUNKIRK veteran who has passed away at the age of 97 will have a military presence at his funeral - thanks to the efforts of his daughter and members of a local association.

For years Len Ellis faithfully attended Remembrance services for fallen comrades, reading out the Exhortation at Ormskirk's Clock Tower and Parish Church.

But with her dad having outlived most of his friends and contemporaries, his daughter, Tracey Hilton, was determined to give him a fitting send-off with a military presence at his funeral.

So she contacted the Skelmersdale Ex Services Association and they volunteered to provide a guard of honour at Mr Ellis's funeral service.

Tracey told the Champion: "My father attended many, many funerals of military comrades but now there are none left to attend his and I know he would really appreciate a military presence."

And the Skem vets were only too happy to oblige.

Dave Knowles, secretary of Skelmersdale's Ex Services Association, said: "Mr Ellis served his time and we feel, as an an ex-servicemen's association, it is our duty to see the gentleman off in a fit and proper way."

Originally from Anfield, Len moved to West Lancashire after the war with his wife Kathleen, whom he met while they were both stationed in Shrewsbury.

Kathleen, a Londoner served with Auxiliary Territorial Services, the women's branch of the British Army.

After bringing up their children Peter, Chris, Steve and Tracey in Aughton, the couple later moved to County Road in Ormskirk where Kathleen died in 2011 aged 91.

Before his evacuation from Dunkirk, Len was a driver with the Royal Army Service Corps where his 6ft 4in frame earned him the jocular nickname of Tiny!

He served the remainder of the war in Palestine, Egypt and South Africa and was awarded numerous medals.

After leaving the army, Len worked in sales, eventually becoming an area manager for the North West, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man.

However the Dunkirk experience was always a part of his life. He became both vice-chairman and vice-president of the Dunkirk Veterans Association, returning to France many times and being presented with a medal by the Mayor of Dunkirk.

His story of how he escaped Dunkirk can be found in the BBC's WW2 Peoples War archive.

Entitled 'Home from Dunkirk on a Coal Barge', it tells how he and another soldier took a wounded and bleeding comrade to the front of a queue of soldiers waiting to be transported out and were subsequently taken on to a Dutch coal barge.

Len's funeral will be held at Christ Church, Aughton, at 11am on Friday September 22.

Jane with Alan and Keith on the zipwire in Snowdonia

Vertigo sufferer Jane tackles zipwire challenge for charity

A SKELMERSDALE woman who suffers from vertigo overcame her fears to brave what is believed to be the fastest zipwire in Europe to raise funds for good causes.

Jane Keal, a member of the Maghull and District Lions group, joined fellow members, Keith Patterson and Alan Todd, to tackle the daring descent - reckoned to reach speeds in excess of 100mph - over a lake by disused slate quarries in Snowdonia.

Although only formed in 2016 and obtaining charter status this year, Maghull and District Lions Club has already raised thousands for worthwhile community initiatives.

Derek Murphy from the group said: "Three of our members braved the daring descent to raise funds for local causes which we support.

"Happily, they all survived to zipwire another day and described the event as exhilarating.

"Given that Jane suffers from vertigo her efforts were especially astonishing.

"They all thank their many sponsors for raising what is hoped will be a final combined total of around £1,500."

And he added: "Ours is a diverse group - Alan has Melling connections, Keith is from Formby and Jane is from Skelmersdale - and we are always looking to build our existing membership. Enquiries from prospective members would be most welcome by ringing 01704 840712 - and don't worry you won't have to do the zipwire if you don't feel up to it!"

Stabbing victim taken to hospital

POLICE were called by the ambulance service at about 2.55pm on Sunday, September 17 to reports that a man had been stabbed at an address on Banksbarn, Skelmersdale.

When they attended they found a man in his 40s who had suffered two stab wounds to his leg and one to his arm.

He was taken to Aintree Hospital for treatment. Police enquiries are ongoing and no arrests have been made as yet.

National Express contract is just the ticket for local designer and manufacturer

SKELMERSDALE-based Benchmark Plastic and Metal have secured a large contract with the UK bus division of National Express.

The international transport giant has placed an order for 1,600 vacuum-formed ticket roll holders to be rolled out to their fleet of buses in the West Midlands as part of an upgrading of the ticket machines across the fleet.

Benchmark sales manager, David Cooke, commented: "We are delighted to have secured this contract with such a major household name. This is our biggest contract to date and our first contract with a large multi-national."

National Express have a fleet of 29,000 vehicles and run the largest scheduled national coach network in the UK.

The contract bodes well for the Skelmersdale company which has won contracts supplying a diverse range of bespoke products including catchment trays for industrial spills, heavy duty cable placements and a contract supplying a leading manufacturer of shipping containers.

David Cooke added: "We are not only a manufacturer, we have a great deal of experience in designing products and clients appreciate our ability to work collaboratively on design and material selection. We produce forming tools on site so we can produce prototypes and samples enabling customers to make changes before committing to full production."

The ticket roll holders Benchmark are making for National Express

Benchmark Plastic and Metal is a part of Nutriculture Ltd, a company that has been based in West Lancashire for 40 years. The company has three sites on the West Pimbo Industrial Estate due to continuing expansion.

Benchmark Plastic and Metal carry out all design and manufacture in Skelmersdale.

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19th January 2018 **£139**

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Calico — LIVE ON SATURDAY EVENING

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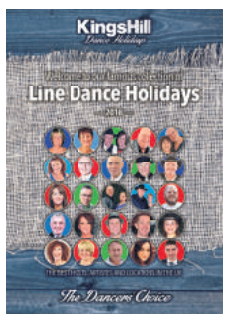

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£1m boost for bus network approved

COUNCILLORS have approved what Lancashire County Council chief's described as "major improvements" to the network of buses supported by the authority.

The council has already committed to make an extra £1m available to bus services, increasing the budget from £2m to £3m.

And at its meeting last Thursday (September 14) the cabinet agreed to boost the council's support for buses with new routes and changes aimed at improving existing tendered services.

Councillors say they want to restore lost links between communities, particularly in rural areas where people who do not drive or own a car rely most on public transport; increase the frequency of services on routes with greater demand; and stabilise the network by supporting routes which might otherwise disappear.

County Councillor Keith Iddon, Lancashire's cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "This additional funding will support and supplement the commercial network to link communities which might otherwise have no or very little public transport. It will make a big difference to people's lives and help to ensure transport connections across Lancashire are as effective as possible.

County Councillor Keith Iddon

"We need a good public transport network for our economic prosperity, giving everyone the opportunity to access work and education. It also means people can carry out everyday activities.

"In developing these routes all county councillors were invited to raise local issues and offer their input on behalf of their communities and we've worked hard to get the most out of this investment.

"We will now speak to bus operators about how we could improve services in some areas where we think the best option is to enhance an existing commercial service to better serve communities."

Detailed timetables will now be developed, and all county council-supported bus services put out for competitive tender, with the revised services proposed to start from December 10.

There will be no change, or only minor adjustments to timetables, for 15 existing county council tendered bus services.

The routes to be improved in West Lancashire are as follows:

- Service 337 Chorley - Charnock Richard - Eccleston- Croston- Mawdesley- Parbold - Burscough - Ormskirk.
- Service 347 Chorley - Charnock Richard - Eccleston - Croston - Mawdesley - Rufford - Southport.

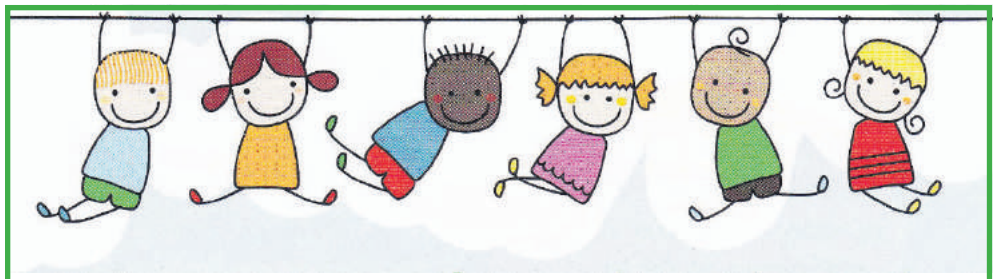
Bus Services 337/347 will restore rural village links and improve frequencies across Chorley and West Lancashire to Southport and Ormskirk.

Projected benefits include an improved service for Croston and Eccleston, restoring the direct link to Chorley and improved frequency between Mawdesley, Croston, Eccleston and Chorley.

Service 337 will additionally serve Burscough Industrial Estate, providing public transport access to this employment area.

- Service 315 Ormskirk - Haskayne - Halsall - Shirdley Hill - Southport.

The county council will work with bus operators to try to develop a sustainable option to restore a daytime service link between Ormskirk, Haskayne, Halsall, Shirdley Hill and Southport.



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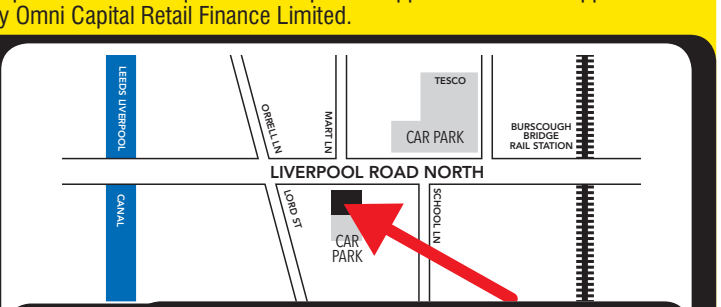

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Aughton Town Green Primary School's award-winning cook, Rachel Castles-Bathie with two of her regular satisfied 'customers'

Rachel's recipe for success

SCHOOL cook Rachel Castles-Bathie certainly found the recipe for success when she entered a national competition.

The annual Local Authority Caterers Association (LACA) Finishing Touches catering exhibition gives school cooks the opportunity to show off skills they wouldn't usually have the opportunity to.

The competition, held in Birmingham, is aimed at all levels of staff employed in school catering.

Now in its 10th year and organised in association with the Craft Guild of Chefs, it features 12 different categories testing a range of skills from cake baking and decorating, to floral sugarcraft and cakes for special diets.

And Rachel, who works at Aughton Town Green Primary School, was awarded a merit and topped the section for cakes suitable for a special diet.

County Councillor Susie Charles, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "Being a school cook is a challenging job. Their menus have to be varied and interesting, as well as nutritious, balanced and appealing to children.

"We know we have some great cooks in our schools, and I'd like to give huge congratulations to those who did so well in this national competition for proving they're among the best anywhere."

And head teacher of Aughton Town Green Primary, Nick Huxley, added: "The children were thrilled to hear of Rachel's success.

"Rachel is a fantastic cook and all of our children love her tasty meals. At Town Green we give very high priority to healthy lifestyles and Rachel always ensures this is the case with our school meals."

Air Show competition winners

THE lucky winners in our competition offering five pairs of tickets to the spectacular Friday night launch event for this year's Southport Air Show were: John Price from Southport; Peter Morcom, Southport; Sarah Faragher, Netherton; Louise McMaster, Skelmersdale; and Ann-Marie Royle from Formby.

The correct answer to the question: 'What milestone birthday did Southport Air Show reach last year', was 25 years.

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Fundraisers urged to 'fly the colours' for hospice

Positive vibes are the order of the day at Friday the 13th event

Fundraisers are being urged to wear green, purple or both to raise funds for Queenscourt

FUNDRAISERS are hoping Friday the 13th will prove to be a very lucky - and colourful - day for Queenscourt Hospice.

The team at the hospice are holding a 'Go Purple and Green' awareness event on Friday, October 13 and want residents in Sefton and West Lancs to fly the colours in support.

Lucy Smith, community fundraiser for Queenscourt said: "For one day don your purple t-shirt, pull up your green socks, maybe a swish of purple eyeshadow or even top it off with a green wig if you're brave enough.

"Round up your colleagues, especially the boss; get your classmates involved, see which class can raise the most; or simply gather your friends for a bit of fun.

"It's a simple way to have a bit of fun with fundraising and bring everyone together for a special cause.

"We'd really love to see our whole community joining us in flying Queenscourt's colours.

"Join in and let your creativity flow, show off your baking prowess with purple and green cakes for people to donate and enjoy, maybe a selfie station in the office or even set up a nail bar for fabulous colour co-ordinated nails!

Special

"We're definitely looking forward to it here in the office, it was such a fun day last year!

"We're spreading positive vibes with Friday 13th as our official day, but you can choose a date that works for you.

"If everyone joins us and embraces Queenscourt's colours for just a small donation each, we can make a great big difference together."

Every penny raised will help to give a special kind of care to patients and families in Southport, Formby and West Lancashire.

Got a story? Ring the Champ News Desk on 01704 392400

Veterans Alan Lewis MBE and Tommy Creeny with the chair of Lancashire County Council, Councillor Terry Aldridge (centre)

Veterans on parade at civic service

MEMBERS of the Skelmersdale Veterans' Association attended the Mayor of West Lancashire's Civic Service held at St Richard's Church in Old Skelmersdale, joining up with Skelmersdale Brass Band to lead the procession from the Horseshoe Inn.

The veterans carried their colours and also formed an honour guard at the standing room-only event attended by past mayors of the borough, along with civic dignitaries and voluntary groups from throughout Lancashire.

Alan Lewis from the veterans' group said: "During the day other mayors pointed out how colourful our flags were, asked us about the association and wished us well. We would like to thank Hotter shoes for sponsoring our colours and Skelmersdale Action For Youth for sponsoring the Union flag."

The veterans also recently received £150 grants from both County Councillor Terry Aldridge and County Councillor Julie Gibson which they will use for activities for members.

Alan Lewis added: "The association would like to thank the councillors for the funding and the support that they have given us ."

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These 'road improvements' in time of austerity beggar belief

AS part of my daily exercise walk I frequently use the Granville Park area in Aughton. Recently I have been amazed at some of the 'road improvements' being carried out.

1. The complete road network has been resurfaced. Very nice, but this is a mainly residential area with little through traffic.

Meanwhile a busy road, such as Winifred Lane which carries considerable traffic to the A59 Northway Road, continues to deteriorate. In particular the Northway end which is very bad.

How come Granville Park 'jumped the queue'?

2. Recently new yellow lines have been painted on certain parts of Granville Park and new no-waiting signs erected. However, upon close inspection the no-waiting time is only 11am to1pm!

All that expense for two hours of prohibited parking. Whose bright idea was this and at what expense, I wonder?

If any road should have yellow lines it is Moss Delph Lane.

This road also carries a great deal of traffic, most of which exceeds the 20 mph limit, but that is another matter.

Yes, it does have yellow lines by the shops but after that nothing.

3. Finally, to add insult to injury, a road gang is now in the process of 'burning off' large sections of these new yellow lines.

This includes the double yellow lines by the new Co-op store (ex Cockbeck Inn).

It really beggars belief that, in a time of austerity, the highways department seems immune.

How come, I ask myself.

Then the penny drops, of course this is 'Granville Park', nod, nod, wink, wink, enough said.

Doug Fuller, Aughton

Limiting fund's eligible recipients to those within a one-mile radius of site would omit large parts of town

FURTHER to Councillor Terry Aldridge's letter in the Champion (September 6) I wish to clarify the following facts.

The Whitemoss Community Fund is administered by an independent body which actually allows groups within a 10-mile radius of Whitemoss to bid for monies.

The group that meets to decide which projects will receive support include representatives from West Lancashire Borough Council, Groundwork Lancashire West & Wigan and West Lancashire CVS.

It decided that a five-mile radius was more appropriate.

A one-mile radius, as Cllr. Aldridge advocates, would actually omit large parts of Skelmersdale, including the whole of Tanhouse, Birch Green, Digmoor and Ashurst.

Since it started, Whitemoss Community Fund has provided over £400,000 to West Lancashire groups and organisations. Over 40% of the groups were based within a 1.5-mile radius of Whitemoss.

All applications are assessed against a strict criteria, including deliverability and community access.

The deadline for the next round of applications is March 28, 2018. Information on how to apply is available at www.whitemosslandfill.co.uk and I would encourage as many local groups as possible to get involved.

Rob Routledge, chairman,
Whitemoss Community Fund

PICTURE of the week

As dusk fell on this year's Southport Air Show the Fireflies Aerobatic team took to the sky for their first appearance at the event with a stunning display of aerial pyrotechnics. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Fed up of clearing the mess left by other people's cats

I LIVE in Ivybridge in Skelmersdale and am fed up of cats!

I have a cat myself who stays in most of the time and when she goes out, she usually stays in the back garden.

But there are at least seven other cats in the area that use my garden as a toilet. I don't mind picking up cat mess after my own cat but every day there is cat poop froma few other cats.

I am disabled with a damaged hip nerve and cannot weight-bear through my left foot so picking up things off the floor is hard work and I use grabbers in the house.

I have bought cat repellents and I have to keep spending money to try to keep them out.

I am so frustrated over this matter. If you have cats, please use litter trays and keep them in more often.

Fed-up cat owner, by email

Ormskirk's roads and footpaths are a disgrace

I AGREE wholeheartedly with the comments made by the three letter-writers (Champion, September 6) who have voiced their concerns about the disgusting state of Ormskirk's highways, footpaths, hedges and gutters.

Why can't the councillors - county and local - see that the way to attract investment and visitors to the town is to make it look welcoming.

Money spent on improving Moor Street is welcome but there needs to be a general policy of keeping our town centre and its outskirts clean, tidy and weed-free.

Come on councillors, do the job you were elected to do - improve our town!

Steve Kelly, by email

...and dangerous!

I DEFINITELY agree with Mrs Porter (Letters, September 6) about the paving in Ormskirk town centre.

I too had a very bad fall and found all the paving was broken.

And on many other occasions I have seen other people trip on the cobbles and tiles that are broken and very uneven.

The materials used were cheap and not fit for public use with the council wasting money by accepting the cheapest quote.

B. B. by email

■ **IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?**

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

All views and opinions expressed in letters are solely those of the authors.

Nowhere to swim, play or cycle safely - no wonder youngsters end up on ipads!

OUR four-year-old old grandson has been learning to swim with us in the small pool in the Nye Bevan centre.

Now he has started full-time school we find that the only time available for us to continue gives us a 45-minute slot after his 3pm finish, as the pool is not available to the general public (as Ormskirk's Park Pool).

Still surely there must be a reduced price? Well, no it's the same price however long you stay!

Just have to take him to Summer Street play area. But there is, of course, the risk of dog attack - if it's not too filthy for dogs! - due to the fact that our council has decided that fencing dogs out is not a priority at that particular location.

I suppose I could take him on to a cycle track and teach him how to ride on the roads from there.

There is, of course, the little problem of us getting to a cycle track without going on to the road, before he learns how to do it safely, given that there is no route from his or our house with a continuous pavement to a cycle track.

Perhaps when he has learned how to read and write the problem will be solved and he can stay in his bedroom and play on an ipad!

**David Symons,
Melbreck, Ashurst**

Our estate is going downhill

I HAVE lived on the Tanhouse estate in Skelmersdale for the last 28 years, and over those years I noticed a deterioration in the quality of the estate.

Where the footpaths were well maintained, they have become loose in places. This is because of the close proximity of trees that have grown out of all proportion, thereby causing the flags to lift in places, which can be a hazard to elderly people causing them to trip and suffer injury.

And where the flags have separated, weeds are growing unchecked and it's getting to the point where it's hard to tell where the grass verges end and the footpath begins!

I don't know if it's just coincidental, but the problem seems to have got worse since the last council elections!

Chris Grogan, Tanhouse

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Council accused of putting care link service at risk

Former employee fears 'inaccurate' claims about deficit figures could lead to loss of corporate support for scheme

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A FORMER employee has accused West Lancs Council of putting the borough's Home Care Link service at risk by making what she says are inaccurate claims about its cost to taxpayers in a drive to encourage participation in a consultation on proposals for savings and efficiencies totalling £310,000.

The authority said that the service, which provides 24-hour help to council residents in sheltered housing schemes and a telecare lifeline alarm service to more than 8,000 private properties, companies and public sector organisations, was currently running at annual deficit of £70,000.

However, Helen Ankers, who worked as a project and business development officer with the scheme until April this year, says that the figure is inaccurate and was the result of mistaken information provided by an accountant. And she says she brought the mistake to the attention of council officials at the time but was ignored.

Highlighted

Helen, who left the service to look after her disabled child, contacted the Champion after reading the recent appeal for residents, organisations and businesses to take part in the consultation on proposed savings.

She wrote: "As a recent ex-employee of Home Care Link, I can guarantee the information about the service being £70,000 in deficit is not true. I am so angry this service has been put at risk.

"This figure was given mistakenly by an accountant and then a senior officer to councillors back in April. It was highlighted to both parties by myself and it seems this was not corrected.

"Home Care Link runs like a business and has to continually bid for contracts outside of West Lancs to keep the costs of the service at a minimum for the vulnerable and elderly.

"This service has not been in deficit for at least seven years. They also provide an excellent out-of-hours service for the whole of West Lancashire including being the first point of contact for emergency plan.

"Lets hope Home Care Link's corporate customers don't view this in a bad light and withdraw their custom. However I feel the damage is already done."

A spokesman for West Lancs Council responded: "The service was budgeted to run at a deficit of £61,000 in the 2016-17 financial year but performed better than expected so that the final year end deficit was £33,000.

"The budgeted prediction for the current year is a deficit of around £70,000. In earlier years the service had been achieving a financial surplus but a combination of reductions in income and cost pressures has resulted in a deficit position developing.

"The council is committed to providing a cost-effective, high-quality Home Care Link service and is considering measures to increase take-up of the service to generate additional income and to reduce costs. This will help to ensure the financial viability of the service going forward."

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Heritage group shortlisted for community grant scheme

MEMBERS of a local heritage group are appealing to West Lancs residents to help them win a cash donation.

Images of Burscough and Surrounding Areas has been shortlisted in a community grants scheme.

Started in 2010 and run by local historians, Michael Dawson and Lawrence Critchley, the group is a non-profit organisation with the motto 'Keeping the Past Alive' which has an online archive of images, film footage, stories and memorabilia of the area available for schools, community groups and individuals.

Skipton Building Society's Grassroots Giving scheme awards grants of £500 to small groups to help them make a difference in their neighbourhood with the winners decided by public vote.

You can vote for Images of Burscough at any branch of Skipton Building Society or by registering your email address on the group's entry page www.skiptongrg.co.uk.

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Bank 'ambassadors' and team members with school uniform items they presented to the Liberty Centre

Bank workers' welcome gifts for Liberty Centre

STAFF at the Co-operative Bank's contact centre in Skelmersdale have donated a range of school uniforms to the Liberty Centre, formerly the West Lancashire Women's Refuge, following a month-long initiative.

Workers at the bank's Delf House base in Southway collected the items of clothing throughout August.

The event was organised by community ambassadors at the contact centre, Karen O'Hare, Geraldine Walker and Sara Wellington.

Karen said: "Abused families who have nothing come into the Liberty Centre all the year round, so staff at the centre were grateful for our donation. They gave us a massive thanks as it is a big thing to receive and they are particularly busy at this time.

"We collect every year for the charity and hopefully our efforts make a difference for them.

"Everyone at the contact centre pulled together and were happy to donate to a good cause.

"At Christmas we will be donating gift sets for adults at the Liberty Centre and toys for the children."

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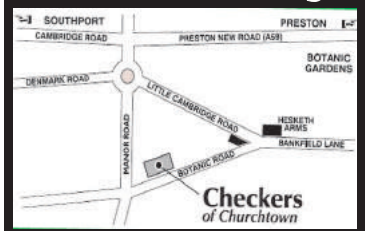

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MP defends her decision on Brexit Repeal Bill vote

Report by **Henry James**

WEST Lancs MP Rosie Cooper has defended her decision to vote against the Brexit Repeal Bill in the face of fierce criticism by a borough councillor.

A press release issued by Councillor Sam Currie, the Conservative representative for Aughton and Downholland on West Lancs Council, slammed Ms Cooper and accused her of "putting party people."

However the MP responded by saying that "she did not want to see the Tories taking decisions away from Parliament."

The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill was passed by 326 votes to 290 thanks to cross-party support on the night and will now receive a second reading.

Cllr. Currie said: "She campaigned for remain and then tried to sit on the fence and say she would go along with the will of her residents when her side lost the referendum.

"The fact is, she was whipped into voting this way and she put party before people.

"This is wholly unacceptable and I urge her to explain these actions to the good people of West Lancashire who deserve to know why she has pulled the wool over their eyes."

Rosie Cooper MP

Councillor Sam Currie

But Ms Cooper dismissed the claim that she had acted against the will of her constituents.

She said: "Let me be clear - Brexit is happening, don't let anyone try to fool you on that.

"I voted in favour of holding a referendum, I voted in favour of triggering Article 50 and I will continue to vote to represent the will of West Lancashire residents

"This Bill is about how we leave the EU and I could not agree to the power grab where Theresa May and the Tories were trying to take decisions away from Parliament and concentrating it in their own hands.

"We voted to leave the European Union to put power and law-making back in the hands of the British people, not to hand it over to a Tory cabinet, making decisions behind closed doors. It would be very dangerous to give the Prime Minister a blank cheque before we see what deal can be done.

"I will continue to vote to ensure Brexit progresses as per the timetable set out, and will scrutinise this Bill when it comes back before Parliament to safeguard our current vital rights and protections."

In the referendum in June last year West Lancashire voted in favour of the UK leaving the European Union by 35,323 votes to 28,546.

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Co-op Bank donates £20,000 to appeal fund for disaster-hit communities

Report by **Henry James**

THE Co-operative Bank, which has a contact centre in Skelmersdale, has announced it has donated £20,000 to an emergency appeal fund, set up by Co-operatives UK, to fund the development of co-operatives in countries ravaged by hurricanes and flooding in recent weeks.

Over the past month, natural disasters, including flooding in South East Asia, and hurricanes across the Caribbean, have left communities devastated, with livelihoods, business and lives being lost as a result of the disasters.

The emergency fund will be distributed to co-operatives on the ground in these disaster-hit areas to allow them to rebuild.

Co-operatives are a vital source of helping communities find their feet again and provide long-term sustainability.

The bank's donation will be split equally to help co-operatives in the Caribbean and South East Asia.

The Co-operative Bank HQ in Skelmersdale.

Values

Liam Coleman, chief executive officer, at The Co-operative Bank, said: "The recent natural disasters in Asia and the Caribbean are a human tragedy with lives, homes and livelihoods lost as a result of the devastation.

"Our donation, along with those from the wider Co-operative Movement, will help those communities who need it most by giving long-term sustainable development to those co-operatives who play such an important role in the communities in which they are based.

"As a bank that is defined by its values and ethics, our co-operative heritage and ongoing commitment to the co-operative sector is vitally important to us and we hope this donation can make a real difference to co-operators who are rebuilding after recent events."

And Ed Mayo, chief executive of Co-operatives UK, added: "The floods and storms are devastating the lives of millions of people. We know that co-ops offer a vital tool for people to rebuild their homes and livelihoods together.

"We are encouraging UK co-ops to donate what they can to this emergency appeal to support the development of co-operatives that will aid long-term sustainable reconstruction. This is people-to-people support."

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Libraries' opening hours consultation gets go-ahead

County Councillor Buckley

LANCASHIRE County Council's cabinet has approved a proposal to seek the public's views on libraries' opening hours could be allocated across the week in future.

At a meeting on Thursday (September 14) councillors gave the go-ahead for an eight-week consultation, from Monday, October 2 to Sunday, November 26, inviting library users, staff and partner organisations to give their views before a final decision early next year.

The proposal allocates each library to one of four different bands based on local need with opening hours that are proportionate to the population that each serves.

Each library has been allocated to one of these bands which will be set out in the consultation seeking comments on the way the opening hours are allocated across the week.

The new opening hours being proposed are based on visitor numbers to the library, and when they are used the most.

If the proposal goes ahead, libraries across the county will be open for more hours in total than currently.

County Councillor Peter Buckley, Lancashire's cabinet member for community and cultural services, said: "This proposal follows on from our decision in July to reopen libraries which had previously closed.

"We're proposing changes to when libraries will be open and overall this would mean them being open for more hours in total across the county.

"We've designed the proposed model according to when we know they're most used, with the aim of better meeting demand with the resources we have. There will be no difference in the quality of service between bands.

"I would encourage everyone involved to let us have their views."

The four bands are as follows:

- **Band one:** Open for 50 hours over six days every week.
- **Band two:** Open for 42 hours over six days every week.
- **Band three**: Open for 34 hours over five days every week.
- **Band four:** Open for 18 hours over four days every week.

From Monday, October 2 the public will be able to give their views by filling in a printed questionnaire available at their local library or mobile library.

Alternatively they can go online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/haveyoursay and click on 'consultations' then click on 'library opening hours consultation.'

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Partners team up to ensure safe integration into community for new student intake

THE West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership (WLCSP) is once again aiming to ensure that Edge Hill University's new students have a safe and enjoyable time whilst studying and socialising in the borough.

The partnership, which includes the university, has an excellent track record of delivering a large programme of activities to integrate students safely into the community.

The annual partnership Welcome Week programme started on Sunday, September 17.

WLCSP members view this period as an ideal opportunity to provide key safety and welfare messages to the students and its work has previously been received well by local residents.

Dave Tilleray

However, many aspects of this programme will extend beyond the initial Welcome Week (formerly known as Freshers' Week) when returning students will be given the important messages.

Dave Tilleray, West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership chairman, said: "The Community Safety Partnership wants to welcome Edge Hill University students to West Lancashire. We have made a lot of effort to ensure plans are in place to help local people and Edge Hill University to integrate students into the area during the first few weeks of term."

The university will distribute Halls of Residence & Student Handbooks to all students, containing information on safety, security and behaviour. And staff will ensure students are inducted into their responsibilities as citizens in our local community.

Partnership members will also be in and around the campus on St Helens Road to offer help and advice to new students and provide assurance for the wider community.

The police have a dedicated patrol plan and, with the help of funding from the Community Safety Partnership, will have extra officers on local streets during the first two weeks of term.

There will be foot patrols until 3am, particularly on key nights for Welcome Week activities as identified by the Students' Union.

Councillor Kevin Wright, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for community safety, said: "Welcome Week is a very busy time and the Community Safety Partnership has an excellent plan in place for this period once again. I would like to reassure residents that all relevant organisations are working together on their behalf. This partnership working provides excellent value for money as the agencies work together to ensure the welcome period runs smoothly."

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service will give fire safety talks to first year students and carry out fire safety checks on student accommodation across the borough.

In addition to regular Saturday night patrols on Saturdays September 23 and 30, Ormskirk Street Pastors will have volunteers on extra town centre patrols between 10.30pm and 2.30am on Friday, September 29.

The council's Environmental Enforcement Team will also be undertaking daily patrols of Ormskirk for the three-week period visiting all known student properties to provide advice in relation to waste, recycling and noise.

Messages

Fay Sherrington, Edge Hill's Director of Student Services, said: "Edge Hill is proud to continue its participation in the Community Safety Partnership initiative. Ensuring our students and members of the Ormskirk community are kept safe is of paramount importance to us, and we work closely with the CSP to support a safe, secure and welcoming community environment. We're continually communicating crime safety messages to students and also encourage them to be neighbourly and become active members of the local community."

West Lancashire geographic policing Inspector, Adrian Jolly, said: "In consultation with the Community Safety Partnership we have devised a comprehensive multi-agency plan to ensure that Welcome Week is a success and passes peacefully, keeping disruption and anti-social behaviour to a minimum. We will be facilitating increased foot patrols in and around the vicinity of the university and town centre. Residents and students alike will be re-assured that there will be a visible police presence throughout the welcome period."

And Matthew Hamer, Lancashire Fire and Rescue's West Lancs Service Delivery Manager, said: "This will be our 13th year delivering fire safety advice to new students living on campus, as well as those living in rented accommodation off site. We have seen the number of call-outs reduce significantly over this time and we will continue to deliver these important messages."

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Budding artists brush up on their skills

MEMBERS of an Aughton-based art class were given the chance to brush up on their painting skills with the help of a renowned artist.

The class, which meets at Springfield Court Nursing Home in Springfield Road, were invited to a two-day masterclass by Ireland-based artist, Mark O'Neill.

A former pupil at St Mary's school in Crosby, Mark was taught by Colin Wilkinson, owner of Springfield Court and himself an accomplished artist. He later moved to Ireland where he is renowned for his portraits and landscapes.

Pictured left: Class members with some of their creations

Boost for Rainbow House

Report by **Kenny Parker**

OFFICIALS of a Lancashire-based charity have set their sights on becoming a centre of excellence for disabled children after receiving a bumper donation.

The president of Rainbow House in Mawdesley, Bill Ainscough, was presented with a cheque for £96,624 by Vincent Fairclough, trustee of the Steve Morgan Foundation at a special event attended by Rainbow House service users, families and staff.

The charity, which relies entirely on donations, provides conductive education, rehabilitation and fun for children, young people and adults with neurological conditions such as cerebral palsy, brain injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis and genetic conditions.

Conductive education teaches skills to empower people with such conditions to lead a more active and independent life and reach their full potential.

The charity say the money will help them to continue to provide and develop services across Lancashire, Cheshire and Merseyside in line with its aim to become a centre of excellence for children with disabilities mainly resulting from neurological conditions.

Rainbow House staff, children and parents receiving the cheque from Vincent Fairclough (left) of the Steve Morgan Foundation.

Bill Ainscough said: "Our grateful thanks go to the Steve Morgan Foundation. We are delighted that they recognise the impact of our work here at Rainbow House and the difference our services make to the lives of our service users and their families.

"This grant will be of considerable benefit as we move forward with our plans to make Rainbow House a centre of excellence for disabled children."

Vincent Fairclough, said: "Rainbow House provides a very professional service supporting disabled children and their families and we are delighted to award this grant."

The Steve Morgan Foundation was created in 2001 by Steve Morgan, founder and chairman of Redrow plc and has committed more than £235m to good causes.

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First Lancashire Business Day aimed at celebrating county's commercial excellence

BUSINESSES across the county are being invited to celebrate the first Lancashire Business Day in November.

The new date in the county's commercial calendar aims to celebrate the Red Rose county's graft, skill, determination and success.

The event has been devised by Lancashire Business View (LBV) magazine in partnership with Marketing Lancashire, the county's destination management organisation to coincide with the annual Lancashire Day.

Lancashire Day can trace its roots back to 1295 when the county first sent representatives to Edward I's Parliament and Lancashire Business Day will take place on November 27, the historic date for the Lancashire Day celebrations.

Richard Slater of LBV said: "This event will be a showcase and celebration of Lancashire's diverse and dynamic business community.

Ambition

"We want to bring a spotlight to business excellence in the county and help forge new collaborations and connections.

"Our job is to connect the county and encourage trade. Lancashire Business Day is at the heart of that ambition."

Ruth Connor of Marketing Lancashire added: "It's our role to showcase the county and encourage investment and visitors to the county.

"We have a fabulous business heritage and this debut Lancashire Business Day event is designed to provide a platform to show that off."

Details for the event are being kept under wraps, but organisers are promising top-class Lancashire food, entertainment and inspiration for the November 27 extravaganza.

Further information for the event will be announced shortly.

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Golf duo bid for Euro glory

ORMSKIRK Golf Club members Ali Gray *(above)* and Doreen Hesketh *(below)* will be teeing up for glory in Europe's biggest pro-am tournament this week.

The talented twosome will go head-to-head with teams from six other clubs in the 36-hole grand final of the 2017 Women's Lombard Trophy in Portugal on Thursday and Friday, September 21 and 22.

PGA professional Ali and her amateur partner Doreen clinched their spot in the final at a regional qualifier at Dunham Forest Golf Club in June with a score of two-under par 70.

More than 700 clubs originally entered the popular PGA National Pro-Am Championship which reaches its climax at Pestana's Vila Sol Golf & Resort Hotel on the Algarve.

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Rain dampens animal sanctuary's annual fun day fundraising event

AN animal charity's biggest fundraiser of the year raised £5,000 to help its work for abandoned animals.

However staff at the Woodlands Animal Sanctuary in Holmeswood say the total was only about half of what they usually raise at their annual Family Fun Day event, as a result of bad weather.

The Sandy Lane centre cares for a wide variety of small domestic and farm animals and needs to raise £3,000 each week to keep running.

Attractions at the fun day included a dog show, food stalls, games, choir, barbecue, climbing wall and archery, plus the chance to meet the wide variety of animals that they care for and see how donations help them to rehabilitate more than 500 hedgehogs each year.

Sally McDerby from the sanctuary said: "Although it rained the team at Woodlands would like to thank everyone who turned out to the Family Fun Day for making it shine for them!

"The rain was persistent all day but it didn't stop lots of people coming along to support our biggest on-site fundraising event of the year.

"The team have once again delivered a friendly, informative and enjoyable day out for all the family, which has raised more than £5,000 - all of which will go directly towards the continuous running costs of the animal rescue charity.

"The whole team would like to say a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who turned out to brave the weather."

● **Woodlands' next major fundraising event will be an Autumn Fair and Halloween Spooktacular at the centre from 10am to 3pm on Sunday, October 15.**

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Care trust mental health service shortlisted for national award

A MENTAL health service at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust has been shortlisted in the forthcoming Health Service Journal (HSJ) Awards to be held in November.

The trust's Acute Therapy Service has been shortlisted in the 'Innovation in Mental Health' category for their new initiative to provide service users in Lancashire with an alternative resource when an inpatient admission is being considered.

The service improves the care pathway and choices for individuals when they are in a mental health crisis by enabling them to remain in their own home while receiving the right care, at the right time.

It also supports people in mental health crisis through a psychologically-led, skills-based programme based on the principles of Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT).

The service offers a safe, containing and therapeutic environment for people who present with low mood, emotional and behavioural dysregulation and who are deemed at risk of suicide or self-harm.

It is accessible to anyone aged 16 years and above and will support between six and eight people at a time. The duration or involvement with the service is individually assessed but is often around six consecutive days although extensions may be offered depending upon the clinical need of the person.

Angela O'Brien, consultant Clinical Psychologist and Clinical Lead for ATS at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We are delighted to have been shortlisted in the prestigious HSJ awards for innovation in mental health services.

"Having seen a gap in provision for people in crisis, the Acute Therapy Service has been developed to support people through a psychologically-led, skills-based programme, equipping them with the skills and techniques they need to manage in times of crisis and difficulty.

"It is a unique service and is proving to be a great success in supporting people as an alternative to hospital or to facilitate earlier discharge from hospital. We are really pleased and proud that this development has been recognised at national level."

Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in London on Wednesday, November 22.

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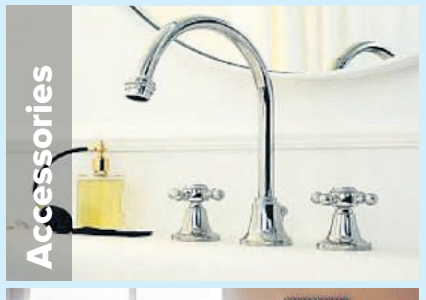

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Music academy plan to launch children's rock choir

A RUFFORD-based music school is planning to launch a rock choir for children.

CD Music Academy, which offers piano, vocal and theory tuition, has unveiled plans for a version of the popular phenomenon to be called Kidz Pop Rocks Choir for youngsters aged between seven and 12.

Following on the success of the academy's adult rock choir set up earlier this year, it is anticipated the youngsters will have many opportunities to perform at various events singing favourite pop songs.

Meanwhile the adult group, which meets twice a week, is also still taking on new members and particularly seeking to recruit more men.

Organiser, Caroline Darbyshire, says that members have already gained in confidence and lots of events are lined up for over Christmas.

Depending on demand, the children's group will run either on Friday night or Saturday morning or afternoon. All staff who work at the academy are CRB-checked and children will sing age-appropriate popular music to piano, backing music and acapella.

Anyone requiring further details can contact Caroline on 07970 896 943 or 01704 821755, or by email at cdmusic@talktalk.net.

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Gloomy weather forecasts put the wind up me...

I MUST admit I am getting more than a little cheesed off with our TV weather forecasts.

For all I know, parts of the Champion's circulation area may have been devastated by the recent storm Aileen, but here in Maghull all we got was, well, weather. A little windy, a trifle wet, but just weather as we know it.

Yet on the Tuesday evening before Aileen was due to strike, forecasters were saying there would be gale-force winds, likely to disrupt power lines, bring down trees and make travel problematic. So when I retired to bed I really expected to be woken during the night to the sound of howling winds and lashing rain.

And in the morning, I hold the weather persons totally responsible for the ruination of my breakfast porridge! The first thing I do is to let dogs Tina and Cinders out into the garden to complete their early ablutions but it was only after I'd done this and put the porridge on that I remembered the severe weather warning - and my garden fence.

Unhappily this is not in the best of repair and I knew that a real gale was likely to cause sections of it to very possible no longer be there. As I have quite cordial relations with my next door neighbour, I had no wish to spoil this by my animals doing what comes naturally on their neatly-manicured lawn. So I rushed out to see what devastation Aileen had wrought and hopefully retrieve the dogs before too much mess has been made.

But apart from two marginally soggy doggies (it was raining lightly and the grass was wet), having a ram sammy around the apple tree, nothing seemed out or order. Relieved, I ushered them back into the house where I was greeted by smoke and the distinctive aroma of porridge in distress.

Even today, the weather forecast for this part of the world was threatening showers, some heavy. Presently it's 4pm and I have been on a shopping trip to Ormskirk (wearing only a jacket over my shirt) and later visited Maghull library. Not a drop of the wet stuff has come my way. If I had believed the weather folk, as opposed to the evidence of my own eyes, I would have been wearing raincoat and carting an umbrella around all day.

Perhaps the problem is one of the little boy who cried 'wolf!' as nNo-one wants to commit another error like the infamous Michael Fish announcement.

Several years ago I was talking to a keeper of a small, tourist dependent shop, rather off the beaten track in Norfolk. With virtually no passing trade (apart from boats) his livelihood was at the mercy of the weather and in this case, on a Bank Holiday Monday, the local forecast had been bad, cloudy with occasional showers.

Trouble was the sun was 'cracking the flags', as my mother used to say, and this elderly shopkeeper was almost literally dancing up and down with anger at the forecast. He was threatening to sue the Met Office for loss of earnings, though I doubt if this would have had much effect.

Pease don't get me wrong, weather forecasting has improved tremendously over the years. I reckon the problem lies in them being too wide in scope. People in these parts for instance know full well that the local weather is modified, often for the better, by the prevailing westerly winds which tend to 'absorb' rain before it gets the chance to drench us.

Which brings me to what I think is a second problem. Even on holiday on the Norfolk Broads, the local radio tends to give a blanket forecast which, on occasion, you can see is very wrong just by looking out of the window!

On a personal Norfolk weather forecast problem, why do they persist in saying "strong breezes" when what is actually occurring are winds capable of whipping up real waves on the river.

It puts the wind up me, I can tell you.

Charity group enjoy activities weekend away in Lake District

Report by **Kenny Parker**

MEMBERS of a West Lancs charity that aims to give people with additional needs the opportunity to participate in different sporting activities and encourage them to improve their health and well-being, have organised a first weekend away for their charges to the Lake District.

The trip to the Calvert Trust Activities Centre on the shore of Bassenthwaite Lake, about four miles from Keswick, was organised by the Burscough-based based Sporting Challenge group and partially funded by grants from the Community Foundation for Lancashire and the Rank Foundation.

Sporting Challenge is made up of a group of parents and carers who provide sporting activities for around 45 people with learning disabilities.

After arriving on the Friday evening and enjoying a meal, night walk and social time, the group really got into the swing of things on Saturday taking part in canoeing, a challenge course and swimming, before relaxing at a disco.

Then on Sunday they tackled a spot of climbing and abseiling before heading home.

Members of the Sporting Challenge group pictured during their trip to the Lake District

Edward McCarthy, Sporting Challenge activities co-ordinator, said: "The weekend was a huge success and we all had a fantastic time.

"It was great to see the group taking part in new activities which we don't normally do.

"The Activities Centre, which is in the heart of the Lake District National Park, has facilitites accessible to people of all ages with sensory, learning or physical disabilities, including those with the most complex needs for which most outdoor centres cannot cater.

"I was very proud of how the group worked as a team and I would like to thank the Sporting Challenge Activities staff and the centre staff for making the weekend a huge success.

"We will definitely be looking at having a break again.

"Meanwhile, if any organisation would like to help with our funding, or if you are an interested parent please get in touch."

For more details visit www.sporting-challenge.org.uk; call 07971 299606 or email EdwardatEMSS@gmail.com.

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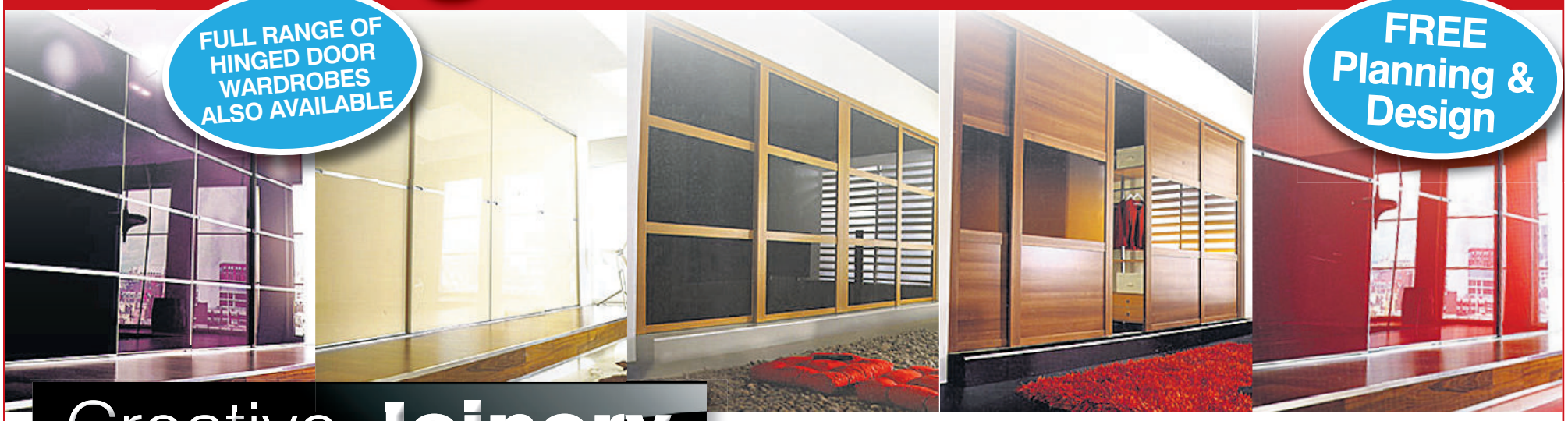

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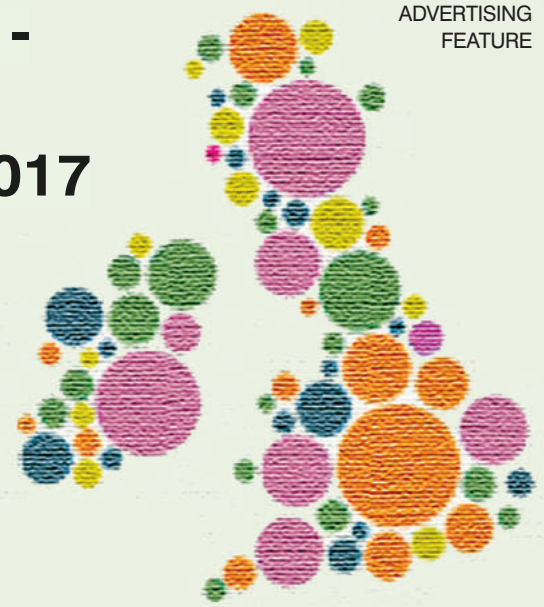

YOUR VISION MATTERS

Did you know?

2 million people in the UK are living with sight loss, that is severe enough to have a significant impact on their daily lives. Half of this sight loss is avoidable.
A sight test can detect early signs of conditions like glaucoma, which can be treated if found soon enough.
During a sight test, other health conditions such as diabetes or high blood pressure may be detected.

The week encourages people from every walk of life to take better care of their eyes and have regular sight tests. Regular sight tests are essential for maintaining healthy eyes but there are other things you can do to look after your eyes.

Diet

Studies show that what we eat can affect our vision. Antioxidants can help to prevent retinal damage. One anti-oxidant which is hugely beneficial is lutein.
Foods recommended for eye health include: Broad leaf greens such as kale and spinach, brightly coloured fruit and veg such as corn, carrots, orange sweet peppers and oranges, oily fish like salmon, tuna and mackerel, broccoli, eggs.

Exercise and eyesight

Lack of exercise contributes significantly to several eye conditions, particularly amongst people aged 60 and over. Exercise may reduce the risk of sight loss from narrowing or hardening of the arteries, high blood pressure and diabetes.

Alcohol

Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to serious health conditions which can have a detrimental effect on your eye health. >

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NATIONAL EYE HEALTH WEEK

Smoking

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The sun

Protecting your eyes from the sun is very important and should not be underestimated. Under no circumstances should you ever look at the sun directly. Your sunglasses should have the CE mark on them which ensures that they are giving you the right level of ultraviolet protection.

National Eye Health Week (NEHW) promotes the importance of eye health and the need for regular sight tests for all.

Vision really matters. Sight is the sense people fear losing the most, yet many of us don't know how to look after our eyes – National Eye Health Week aims to change all that!

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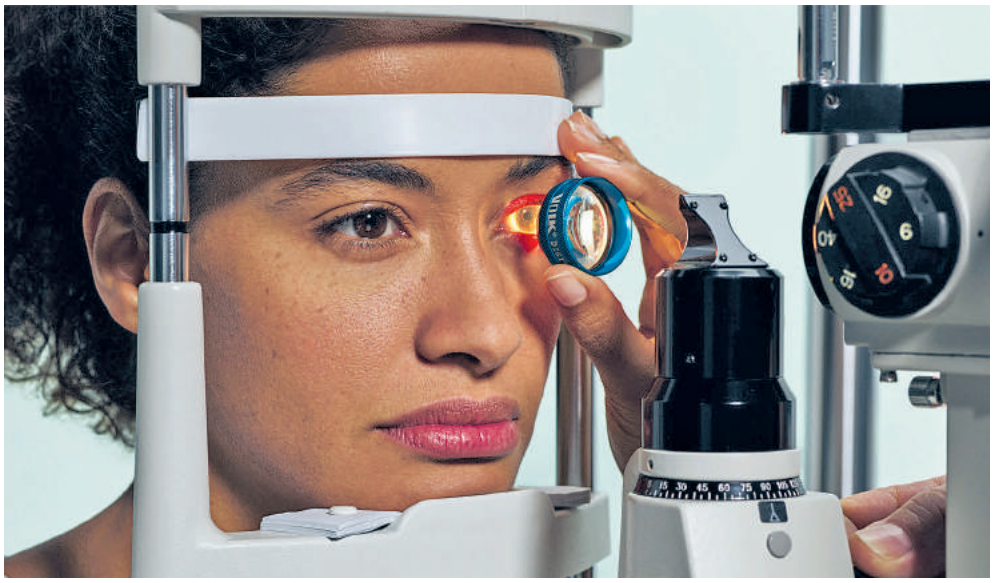

TIME TO TRANSFORM EYE HEALTH

The Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) and Specsavers are urging people to have regular eye tests to help maintain and protect their sight.

Research* commissioned by the charity and high street opticians has revealed that one in five people will live with sight loss in their lifetime, despite at least half of all cases being avoidable. With nearly six million people in the UK currently living with sight-threatening conditions, nearly every family in Britain is touched by sight problems in some way.

While sight is the nation's most precious sense by far, with 78% of people polled saying it is the one they would least like to lose, a quarter of UK adults are still risking avoidable sight loss by not having had an eye test in the past 2 years.

Of those who had not been for an eye test during that time period, 33% did not think that there was anything wrong with their eyes, while 24% said that they just didn't have the time.

Specsavers believes that eye care should be accessible to everyone. Specsavers Healthcall offers a free NHS sight test at home and a comprehensive home eye care service to those who cannot visit a store unaccompanied.

As with all Specsavers staff, the home visiting teams are becoming Dementia Friends to help people with dementia recognise sight loss. The research reveals that only one in three people who qualify for a home visit are aware of the service. It is vital that, in an ageing society, we meet the needs of these vulnerable people and increase awareness.

Specsavers' clinical spokesperson Dr Nigel Best said: 'Some people are waiting until they experience sight loss before booking an eye test, which means they are potentially preventing their optician from detecting signs of eye health problems or other medical issues at an early stage. Early intervention is vital in the management and successful treatment of many conditions.'

RNIB acting CEO Sally Harvey added: 'We would encourage anyone who has put off going for an eye test to book one at the earliest opportunity.'

* YouGov Survey commissioned by Specsavers and RNIB 23rd June - 7th July 2017 of 6,430 UK adults aged 18+.

THERE IS MORE TO AN EYE TEST THAN JUST THIS

Eye tests check more than your vision. They can also keep your eyes healthy and detect a range of health conditions.

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RNIB Specsavers

Transforming eye health

Source: RNIB and Specsavers State of the Nation Eye Health 2017: A Year in Review. A regular test is at least once every two years. ©2017 Specsavers. All rights reserved.

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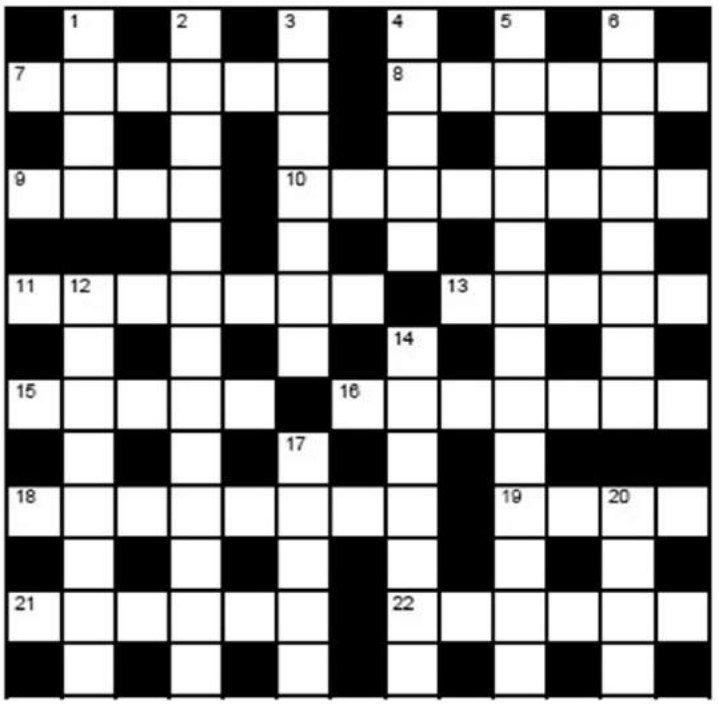

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Ductless Gland. 8. Shredder. 9. Stem. 10. Crumpet. 12. State. 14. Epoch. 16. Ebb tide. 19. Orca. 20. Press-ups. 22. Parts of speech.

Down: 1. Push. 2. Stream. 3. Dead Sea. 4. Usury. 5. Closet. 6. Indebted. 11. Riparian. 13. Obverse. 15. Chatty. 17. Tassel. 18 Spoon. 21 Puck.

ACROSS

7. Lancashire or Yorkshire for instance (6)
8. On land as opposed to at sea (6)
9. Semi-precious variety of agate with different colours in layers (4)
10. Social activities and entertainment following a day's skiing (5-3)
11. Person who moves from place to place seeking work or better living conditions (7)
13. Informal term for mad or silly (5)
15. Violently break (something) into pieces (5)
16. Negatively charged electrode by which electrons enter an electrical device (7)
18. Cumbersome (8)
19. Depend (4)
21. All together (2, 4)
22. Bird of prey or predatory dinosaur (6)

DOWN

1. Capital of the former West Germany (4)
2. Unspeakable (13)
3. Cruel and oppressive government or rule (7)
4. Heavy cavalry sword with curved blade and single cutting edge (5)
5. Treatment of injury by physical methods such as massage or exercise (13)
6. Thin block that presses onto a disk to make a vehicle go slower or stop (5, 3)
12. About to happen (8)
14. Rope used for raising and lowering a sail (7)
17. Remove some or all of the feathers from a chicken for example (5)
20. Plunder (4)

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Win tickets for Joseph at Liverpool Empire

WINNER of The X Factor, Joe McElderry gets set to put on a dazzling coat of many colours as he steps in the title role of the UK's longest-running musical, *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and the Champion has three pairs of tickets to give away for the show!

Joe McElderry

Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's famous musical will be at the Liverpool Empire from October 3-7.

Joe was just 18 when he won the sixth series of The X Factor having been mentored by Girls Aloud star Cheryl Fernandez-Versini and beating off fierce competition from Olly Murs and Stacey Solomon.

Joe then soared to number one in the UK Singles Charts with his rendition of Miley Cyrus's The Climb and his debut album Wide Awake went straight in at number three on the UK Albums Chart. He has since gone on to have two more top ten albums, and he became the first X Factor star to release four albums, with a fifth in the making.

Joe, who hails from South Shields, Tyne and Wear, is also the first and only celebrity to win three reality TV shows! He was crowned the winner of the second series of ITV's Popstar to Operastar before strapping on his skis and slaloming his way to become champion of Channel 4's celebrity ski competition The Jump last year! Joseph marks Joe's first major theatrical appearance following a one-off West End gala performance as the lead in The Who's Tommy in 2012.

Having garnered sensational reviews and standing ovations at every performance since its inception almost 35 years ago, Bill Kenwright's production of this family musical has now sold an estimated 20 million tickets.

This retelling of the biblical story about Joseph, his eleven brothers and the coat of many colours sings out to young and old alike with a score which is crammed wall to wall with hits, including Jacob and Sons, Close Every Door and Any Dream Will Do.

To be in with a chance of winning the tickets to the show answer the following question:

Who wrote the lyrics for Joseph?

Answers to Champion newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 OQA.

Please supply your address and a contact number with your entry. The closing date is noon on Friday, September 29.

Young bowlers round off brilliant season

OFFICIALS of the West Lancs and Sefton Junior Bowls Forum have hailed 2017 as a brilliant year for junior crown green bowls in the area.

The league saw a record number of teams enter and it proved to be the closest finish ever for top spot before Botanic Bandits pipped Scarisbrick Saracens on aggregate difference of points scored by players during the season to claim the crown for the fifth year on the run.

Matthew Potter from Scarisbrick BC finished top of the averages with Luke Dawes (Botanic BC) in second place.

The Junior Merit competition was hosted by Ormskirk BC for the first time but rain saw games played on a straight knock-out basis, rather than the usual round robin format.

In the Under-12s final Harry Copeland, one of the youngest competitors at just nine, defeated sister Lily 15-9. And in the main Junior Merit Chris Farrell beat Rylan Irwin 15-4.

Chris Farrell (left) and Harry Copeland with their trophies

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Show to feature boot stomping Dolly Parton hits

BOS Musical Theatre Company is to present their latest show 9 to 5, which will be staged at The Little Theatre, Hoghton Street, Southport, from Saturday, October 7 - 14.

Based on the hit film of the same name, this musical is full of boot stomping Dolly Parton hits!

9 to 5 tells the story of three women who learn that there's nothing they can't do, even in a man's world!

Violet (Heather Lewis), Judy (Hannah Johnson) and Dora Lee (Lauren Millar) have had enough of Franklyn Hart Jnr (Dom Tolley), the sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot that they call a boss.

They concoct a plan to get even and give their boss and his assistant Roz (Michelle Hopwood) the boot.

While he is 'otherwise engaged' they live out their wildest dreams, giving their workplace a makeover and taking control of the company that had always kept them down. 9 to 5 features new music from super star country singer Dolly Parton. A spokesperson for BOS commented: "As well as the classic title song, this musical displays the true fight of feminism in a world overpowered by men."

The cast and ensemble consist of members new and old. Heather Lewis (Violet) is an experienced stalwart of BOS-MTC and has performed many lead roles over her 20 years with the company.

Lauren and Dom have been members for two years and have performed several principle roles. Dom plays the part of Franklyn Hart Jnr; who, in the show, tries every trick in the book to persuade Dora Lee to "accept his advances".

Hannah and Michelle joined the company more recently and will be performing their first principle roles for BOS MTC.

Hannah said: "I've been involved with BOSMTC for just over two years taking part in Oliver and The Wizard of Oz, both as a chorus member, but 9 to 5 is my first ever principle role which I'm really excited about.

"I have always loved Musical Theatre, but there aren't that many groups in Bootle to get involved with. I then went to watch a BOS MTC production of Hairspray and I was hooked.

"I really wanted to be a part of it, even though it meant travelling from Bootle to Southport several times a week, it's been worth it!

"In 9 to 5, I will be playing the part of Judy Burnly. This is a really challenging role but I get to sing some amazing songs and have some really funny lines. I am also really enjoying working alongside the other principle actors as well as our brilliant chorus.

Hannah Johnson is to play the part of Judy Burnly

"Every cast member has worked so hard and we have an amazing production team who are making sure that we put on a fantastic show."

For more information or to book tickets visit www.bos-mtc.co.uk, or call the telephone box office Tel 03336 663 366.

Dinosaur World roaring into town's theatre

DARE to experience the dangers and delights of Dinosaur World where dinosaurs come to life on stage in a new interactive show for the family.

Offering a theatrical experience, Dinosaur World roars into Southport Theatre today (Wed 20) and Thursday, September 21 for just three performances.

Dinosaur World introduces audiences to the lost island of Mundo De Los Lagartos Terribles off the east coast of South America, a land of giant lizards, rumoured to be inhabited by dinosaurs who had escaped mass extinction at the end of the Cretaceous period.

Using puppetry to bring a range of life-like dinosaurs to the stage, the show reveals a host of creatures including every child's favourite flesh-eating giant, the Tyrannosaurus Rex, along with a Giraffatitan, Segnosaurus and baby Triceratops, to name a few! The live show is followed by a post-show 'meet and greet' where audience members have the opportunity to meet the dinosaurs in person.

This entertaining new show aims to delight the whole family, while also educating young people (and adults) about these incredible creatures from the Mesozoic era.

Danielle Stagg as Miranda with Gertrude the Giraffatitan, one of the biggest dinosaurs in the world

Dinosaur World is written and directed by Derek Bond (Sweet Charity, Manchester Theatre Awards 2017 winner, Little Shop of Horrors Manchester Royal Exchange). The creative team includes: puppet designer Max Humphries (National Theatre, Royal Opera House, Cirque de Soleil); puppet director Laura Cubitt (Running Wild, Chichester Festival Theatre; Don Quixote, RSC; War Horse NT Berlin); Puppetry consultant Toby Olié (for the National Theatre: Elephantom, Peter Pan, The Light Princess, Hansel & Gretel, NT: 50 Years on Stage and also the original hind puppeteer of Joey in War Horse); set & costume designer James Perkins; lighting designer John Maddox and sound designer Tom Mann.

Performed by Danielle Stagg (Miranda), Yana Penrose (puppeteer), James Taylor (puppeteer), Emma Thornett (puppeteer) and Rafe Young (puppeteer).

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Major paintings by American pop artist being shown at Tate

TATE Liverpool will be showing works by the renowned American pop artist Roy Lichtenstein (1923–1997) this autumn.

The display includes major paintings such as In the Car 1963 and provides a rare opportunity to see a substantial group of Lichtenstein's work in the North of England.

It includes some 20 paintings, reliefs and works on paper by the artist known for his paintings based on comic strips, advertising imagery, and adaptations of works by other artists.

Lichtenstein was a pioneer of the pop art movement that exploded in the early 1960s. In his often monumentally-sized paintings, he makes use of a painting technique that mimics the Ben-Day dots seen in comic books and commercial newsprint. This became synonymous with the influence of popular mass culture on the look and subject matter of avant-garde art at the time.

Fascinated by the arresting and emotionally charged imagery found in romance and war comics, Lichtenstein sought to recreate in paint the immediacy and impact of these simplified printed images. This display examines how the artist's work draws on art history while also responding to cultural and political changes from the 1960s onwards.

Lichtenstein experimented with different media throughout his career. Most commonly he used synthetic materials with glossy or mirrored surfaces, the contrasting and reflective effect of this can be seen in works such as Wall Explosion II 1965 and Reflections on Girl 1990. Lichtenstein's only foray in to film will be displayed for just the second time in Europe. The triple screen film installation Three Landscapes c. 1970–1971 is a mesmerising hybrid of film, painting, billboard, comic strip and kinetic spectacle.

ARTIST ROOMS: Roy Lichtenstein in Focus (September 22 to June 17 2018)

Bringing together painting, sculpture and video from throughout Lichtenstein's career, this exhibition constitutes a key body of work, drawn from ARTIST ROOMS - a collection of international modern and contemporary art, established through the d'Offay Donation in 2008, and jointly owned by Tate and the National Galleries of Scotland - alongside major loans from both institutions and loans from the Estate and Foundation of Roy Lichtenstein.

Artist Rooms: Roy Lichtenstein in Focus is curated by Darren Pih, Exhibitions and Displays Curator, with Lauren Barnes, Assistant Curator, Tate Liverpool.

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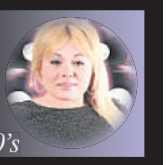
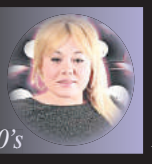


Friday 8th December
Miss Claudia Ann
Talented Little Diva with toe tapping tunes from the 70's & 80's



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GARDENING

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HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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MOBILITY CHAIR brown leather riser/recliner. Instructions. Email photos £995 Lloyds selling £199 good order. Liverpool 21. Can arrange delivery if needed. 0151 9321368

DINING TABLE Six seater rectangular glass & chrome table, few scratches though great condition. £350 ono, cost £1400. Must be collected. Skelmersdale 01695732496 07465616725

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HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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MIRROR FRONTED IKEA bathroom wall cabinet W70 H72 D15 one door three shelves. Antique pine wood. Good condition. £15 01695 725986

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HOUSE AND HOME

CONSOLE TABLE John Lewis chrome with glass top which removes for transport. 1m x 40. Immaculate £65 ono Rufford 01704821720 or 07966 101288

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SOLID OAK nest of 3 tables with glass tops, good condition, £40.00, Ormskirk area. 07719094029

WARDROBE WITH two doors and two drawers below, hardly used; 68L x 176H x 55D cm. Light coloured wood. Ormskirk area. £40 07719094029

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HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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DINING SUITE Italian style 6 chairs, mahogany colour green velvet seat covers, 170cm x 107cm good condition £60 01704 542151

TABLE LAMPS 2 matching, square bases, fluted stems, brass appearance, 30cm tall x 15cm shade, antique appearance £12 ono 01772 813925

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DINING TABLE Ercol "old colonial' Refectory. Two carvers and four chairs, good condition table 152cm x 83cm £450 0151 5260271

3 X TIDYRAIL CLOTHES HANGER matt black & chrome metal frame on castors, one has extra arms and shoe rack £5. The others £3 01695 578177

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DINNER SERVICE new in pink and grey 12 cups and saucers 12 dinner plates 12 side plates 12 dishes £25 01704576761

THREE PIECE suit in beige with reversible cushions three seater sofa one armchair and one recline good condition £200 on 01704576761

BATHROOM CABINET white 5ft tall 1ft wide 1ft depth three glass shelves, drawer and linen bin at bottom as new £40.00 0151 9246393

FARMHOUSE SET Pine table natural top grey painted turned legs 136cm X 88cm 4 grey ladder back rush seated chairs Bargain £195 01704 536838

ARMCHAIRS Terracotta Fabric from Stokers. Good condition have no pets. Solid construction. Buyer collects. £40 01257462764 (Parbold)

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HOUSE AND HOME

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BROWN LEATHER SETTEE 3 & 2 Seater settee in good condition £225 07561280148 or 01515468789

MISC

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SHOWER SCREENS Complete Atlas 1400 walk in shower clean plus glass screen with return in box fits 1400-1700 shower tray £150 01704 573121

ELECTRIC ORGAN Viscount Fantasy FREE to good home 07831597143

LADDERS 2 wooden ex ladders, both 95", can deliver locally 01695 573824

MARCHING DRUM antique large marching drum, BICC Leigh, very good condition for age, sensible offers please. Made by Boozey 01695 724314

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GOLD CHAIN beautiful 22" 9ct gold chain and one 14ct cross, approx. 4.5 grams, case, would make lovely present £145 01704831977

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GRAB RAILS 2 White Grab Rails with suckers. £5 pair. Pick. up Crossens southport 07591482956

WALKING FRAME Indoor lightweight frame. 2 front wheels /2 back safety rubbers.Mobility walking aid.£5 pickup Crossens Southport. 07591482956

MOBILITY SCOOTER 4-wheel Shroprider. Silver. New tyres and batteries. 30 mile range. 8mph. £250. 01695 576722

3 WHEELED mobility walker with bag and lockable hand brakes for safety, can deliver £30 Southport 214498

TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR very comfortable, easily folds for transport, can deliver £55 Southport 214498

CARAVAN MIRRORS Clip on £25 01704 876907

4 WHEELING Frame seat backrest with locking brakes, new condition £40 07845 529259

MOBILITY SCOOTER Wisps model with charger, folds down and comes apart for going in a car £100, O.N.O 01704 546587

MOBILITY SCOOTER Roma with charger, very good condition, can be taken apart to fit into car boot, £200 07933 229033

LIGHTWEIGHT 4-WHEEL walking frame with seat, backrest, locking brakes, folds flat - £40, can deliver 07845 529249

MOBILITY

SELF-PROPELLED wheelchair, carbon fibre wheels, solid tyres, usual features, as new, £60 can deliver 07845 529249

BTEC National Mechanical Engineering core units by alan Derbyshire ISBN 0-7506-5761-8 includes mechanical principles tech etc £3 01704 874084

THREE WHEELER WALKER (DELTA) lockable brakes, two baskets, folds flat, as new £30.00. 0151 9246393

MOTHER AND BABY

IKEA COT mattress Vyssa Vinka 120x60cm 10cm thick.As new excellent condition used only couple times at grandmas.£15 check online £60 new 01695 725986

PUSH CHAIR Navy, suit child up to 11 £20 0151 5318034

TRAVEL COT Mothercare Winnie the pooh design, very clean good condition £20 01704 870187

SAFETY GATE Mother care wooden child gate with walk through feature £15 01704 870187

GRACO TRAVELCOT Complete with travel bag and additional mattress, excellent condition, only used twice at Grandparents. £20 01695 578330

TRAVEL COT blue with carry bag, £10. Visual V-tech secret diary, boxed with instructions, age 6-11, hardly used, ideal gift £32 0151 5239837

BUGGY Mammas & Pappas, moss grey, excellent condition with foot muff, used only at nans house £30. Toddlers first slide, red, like new £5 0151 5266382

MOTHERCARE Transport bouncer, new £25. Playmat and arch £25. Swinging crib, natural £50. Mattress for crib, new £30 07913 761581

MOTORING

BRASS-BARRELLED FOOT-PUMP with pressure gauge. Excellent condition, never been used, original box. £15. 01695 578368

NEW TYRES 4/195/50/R15 £100 01704 4763369

SPARE WHEEL temp 125/17 R17 5 point, suit Vauxhall, new unused £85 07885 330883

ROOF RACK Aluminium genuine Toyota accessory to fit prius. Good contain £50 01704 560518

TOWING DOLLY One man operated, complete with towing light board £300 O.N.O 01704 876907

TOYOTA car seat covers, front, brand new unused for Yaris model £25 ono, cost £47 01257 451485

WITTER TOWBAR for Vauxhall Astra 54-58 reg £20, Cycle carrier, hatchback with fitting instructions £20. 4 New wheel trims 14" £5 01695 726655

WANTED ROOF BARS for 53 Reg Honda Civic preferably Thule. May consider Halfords System_A. Please call or text after 2pm. 07865 094119

PETS

HAMPSTER CAGE Medium Sized with accesories, bedding & Toys £15 ono Tel 07961 937428

QUAIL CAGES Quail cages and beautiful Baby Chinese painted quail for sale bred in aviaries and parent reared £10 a pair.can deliver 07714942581

POND FILTER Fish Mate 6000 G-UV, gravity-fed, UV-light, comes with some new foam and 2 years worth of proper light-bulbs. Great condition. £50. 01695 578368

DOG PRAM For small to medium size dog price £20 O.N.O 07761 717876

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Return coach travel from Southport
Champion

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Christmas Markets
Departing Saturday
2 December 2017
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PRICE INCLUDES...
✔ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star outer Glasgow area hotel with full Scottish breakfast
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Omega
ABTA

Return coach travel from Southport
Champion

LINCOLN AND NOTTINGHAM
Christmas Markets
Departing Saturday
9 December 2017
PRICE INCLUDES...
✔ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star Yorkshire or East Midlands area hotel with 3-course dinner and full English breakfast
✔ Visit to Nottingham Christmas Market & Winter Wonderland
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VIEW ONLINE AT
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Birkdale Engineering Co Ltd of Southport are precision engineering manufacturers of parts, sub-assemblies and Mould Tools, supplying major UK manufactures and associated businesses.

We are looking for a

General Manager

to gradually take over from the existing incumbent, the role would suit a talented and motivated engineer who should be conversant with the processes employed within a precision Engineering/Toolmaking environment, have some customer/supplier liaison experience and a good commercial understanding. Support will be provided to develop skill sets were necessary. Ultimately you will be responsible for all the day to day decision making within a fast moving engineering workplace supported by a small team of highly skilled precision engineers and toolmakers.

The position is full time, 5 days per week and salary will be commensurate with experience.

Please apply in writing, for the attention of;
M. Wear, Birkdale Engineering,
60b Cemetery Road, Southport, PR8 5EF
or email **martyn.wear@paragontoolmaking.com**

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To include some Evening/Weekend work.

Starting at NJC payscale point 30

Full job description & application form are available at:
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Closing date for applications:
9am Weds 4th October 2017

---

2 CARERS required
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We are looking for a **Part Time** (over full days)

Administration Assistant to work

in our busy finance department

This will be a shared role between our newspaper division and our tour operator division.

The role includes all aspects of sales ledger and purchase ledger and requires a high level of accuracy.

Computer literacy is essential together with a great telephone manner and excellent customer service skills.

Candidates must be able to work on their own initiative as well as part of a team and have a positive approach to work.

In return we offer a competitive salary and additional benefits.

Please send your CV together with a covering letter to:

Jaime French, Finance Manager,
Champion Media Group,
Clare House, 166 Lord Street,
Southport PR9 0QA

CHAMPION MEDIA GROUP

or email: personneldepartment@champnews.com

Closing date: 12 noon
Friday 29th September 2017

Re-advertised due to a change in circumstance

SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

(PART TIME – 20 HOURS PER WEEK)
Salary Range : SCP 15 – 22 - £17,072 -£20,661 per annum (Pro Rata).

Scarisbrick Parish Council is seeking to appoint a first class administrator, with good communication skills. The successful applicant will be forward thinking and enthusiastic.
The Clerk has responsibility for all the Council's functions and will be expected to advise and guide the Council.
Applicants should preferably have a local government background, although applicants from other sectors are welcome to apply. However sound administration and financial skills are essential due to the statutory nature of the post.

Closing date for receipt of applications is
12 noon on Friday 20th OCTOBER 2017

Please apply in writing for an application form to:-
Cllr Mrs G Holcroft, Chairman Scarisbrick Parish Council,
54 Moorfield Lane, Scarisbrick, Ormskirk L40 8JD
Email **gillholcroft@yahoo.co.uk**

We will contact all candidates invited for interview shortly after the closing date.

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FTUK are the UK's market leading supplier of fluid power products, including hose, fittings and adaptors. **Find out more about us at www.flowtechnologyuk.com**

Office based, you will be responsible for managing and building relationships with existing trade customers in order to maximise sales. There will be no cold calling.
The ideal candidate will have experience of hydraulic, compressed air, plumbing or heating trade environments in either a sales, technical or trade counter role.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS:
- PC literate, in particular Excel & PowerPoint
- Well organised - company systems must be used to retain all records
- Good communication skills, including a confident and professional telephone manner
- Comfortable making pro-active outbound calls to customers
- Robust attendance record
- Ability to retain and recall information after a period of time
- Self-disciplined with the ability to prioritise
- Ability to work independently and be a team player
- Examples of target focused results (for those from a sales background)

DESIRABLE SKILLS:
- Industry/product knowledge
- Previous experience in a customer facing role
- Imaginative, in terms of promotions and offers
- Comfortable with relaying information to a group of people
- Problem solving skills

Salary to reflect experience. Pension scheme, life assurance and performance bonus after qualifying period. Full training on systems and basic products will be given. Working hours are 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 5.00pm on Friday. Due to our location, own transport is a necessity.

Please email your CV and current salary details to recruitment@flowtechnologyuk.com

Closing date for applications is Friday 29th September 2017 *No Agencies.*

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LOCAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGES ARE CHANGING!

Telecoms are changing rapidly...

DOES YOUR BUSINESS:

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* Want the ability to work from home?

* Need to move with technology?

* Want your mobiles presenting your business number?

These are just some of the numerous benefits of BT's new 21st century network.

The changes are revolutionary which will soon see the demise of traditional lines from your local exchange. New types of connections with inclusive calls, dedicated uncontended internet service with 100% target availability.

CAN BUSINESS AFFORD TO WAIT?

* A recent study suggests that workers are more concerned about losing their internet connection than having no heating or water – and nearly 40% of people believe their stress levels would be higher if they were unable to use the internet.

Andy & Marie Macgregor have successfully managed their BT Local Business for some 15 years and in that time have faced many changes and challenges in the telecoms industry. Working as BT's dedicated partner in the area they are keen to enlighten the business community on the enhanced changes available to them. These latest changes are both challenging and exciting which open endless opportunities for streamlined professional and reliable communications for businesses.

Based in Burscough, they head up a close-knit team of 30+ experts covering the North West of England. Because they are local, they understand local issues better than anyone else. They have been around long enough to see businesses in the area go from strength to strength and have provided the advice and support to assist them in finding tailored solutions for their communications.

If you're in business and you want to speak to your local team for advice on this major transition then call us and we will be delighted to help:

01704 898210

ALSO RECRUITING NOW

In order to facilitate these major changes and transition to BT's 21st century network we are growing our already very successful and knowledgeable team – here is what some of their team have to say:

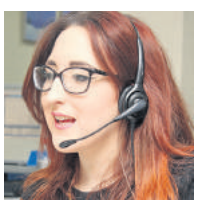
THINK YOU COULD BE PART OF OUR SUCCESS?

Steven W

Steven joined us approximately 9 years ago, prior to this he worked for a car hire company sourcing specialised vehicles for customers following claims. Steven initially joined us as a Broadband and Mobile specialist and having successfully delivered his numbers year on year he has now progressed to a Senior Account Manager which he enjoys thoroughly.

Steven say this is a "Good business, brilliant people and you certainly get out of it what you put in!"

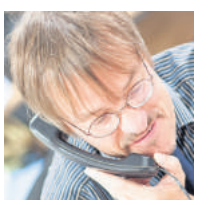
Rachael W



Rachael joined us from straight from School, choosing the National Apprenticeship Scheme rather than University to start her career. Given her tender age of 18 she has fitted exceptionally well into the team and indeed the business. It's a win win for Rachael, whilst working towards an industry recognised qualification she has also started a career.

"Friendly colleagues, helpful managers, and the most educational experience I have ever had the pleasure of being involved in"

Ian P



Previously working for American Express, Ian has 10 years of experience with the BT Local Business. He has developed his position within our business, starting with Desk Sales, Account Management and now Desk Sales Manager

"BT Local Business has the benefit of a family run company with the backing of one of the UKs largest companies, BT. We work hard and play hard."

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APPOINTMENT SETTERS/LEAD GENERATORS

Responsibilities are to proactively contact BT's substantial business customer base with a view to generating sales leads for mobiles, telephone systems, cloud solutions and dedicated data connections. You will be looking to further secure appointments for new and acquired business. Previous outbound sales experience essential.

BASIC SALARY - £18k - £25k depending on experience

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To join our growing and very successful team please send your cv to **ian.page@btlocalbusiness.co.uk** or call Ian on **01704 898230**

Closing date 06/10/2017

www.bt.com/btlocalbusiness

Previous applicants need not apply

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SPORTS EQUIPMENT

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GOLF CLUBS Fullest ram concept all irons plus driver 3 wood 5 wood lovely shafts bargain the lot £65 01515319425/07773242918

FOOTBALL BOOTS Men's Adidas Gloro 16.2 FG football boots. Size UK 9.5 brand new in box. Bargain £30 01704544331

AB CHAIR Black abdominal workout chair focusing ab workout on stomach muscles, supports head, neck and back. Hardly used, good condition £15 0151 2860268

NORDICTRACK MULTI GYM Top of the range E8200 cost £1500 will accept £400 nearly brand new hardly used due to illness. Many features. 07767790187

GOLF BALLS Just like new golf balls for sale titlist,srixon,callaway,tailor mades.20 for £10.or 60 for £25.lovely condition.can deliver. 07714942581

WONDERCORE 2 Comes with work DVD £35 07857 757768

TROLLEY/GOLF BAG Used £20 01704 831238

MIZUNO Left handed golf irons 4 - 5w £30 0772 4018200

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MOUSETRAP GAME Excellent condition but needs two small balls hence the price £2. pickup Crossens Southport 07591482956

SNOOKER/POOL TABLE Childs folding table with balls and cues. Used. £20 01695574707

LEGO EDUCATIONAL 9614 small bricks £15 01695 420950

LEGO EDUCATIONAL Small bricks Lego 9616 £15 01695 420950

CHILD'S PLAY TABLE 15" x 23" x 17" high red table. Removable legs are in the style of a pencil with rubber on ends which act as feet to protect floor surfaces. £6.00. 07434841029

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- ☐ Miscellaneous
- ☐ Mobility
- ☐ Mother & Baby
- ☐ Motoring
- ☐ Pets
- ☐ Sports Equipment
- ☐ Toys & Games

04.2016

2 NOW ENTER YOUR DETAILS: *(not for publication)*

Name Mr/Mrs/Ms

Address

Postcode

Daytime telephone no:

3 YOUR ADVERT'S CONTENT: Please write in **BLOCK LETTERS** • 24 words max.

Post this coupon to Champion Newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 0QA

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We only accept applications for free advertisements from PRIVATE ADVERTISERS that contain HOUSEHOLD ITEMS. Trade advertisers cannot use this service. We do not accept advertisements that contain fur products, knives, guns, crash helmets, car seats etc. For this free ad service a maximum of 24 words only will be published, with a maximum of three items per household per week. Submitting a free advertisement booking does not guarantee insertion in the newspaper, which is offered subject to space availability; in the event they do not appear, you may re-submit. FREE ADVERTISEMENTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED BY TELEPHONE. For our full terms and conditions of acceptance, please see www.champnews.com/terms

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ORMSKIRK
- Charlesbye Avenue, Charlesbye Close, Dark Lane, Delph Top, Greetby Hill, Nursery Avenue, Pendle Drive, Quarry Mount

NEWBURGH
- Back Lane, Course Lane, New Acres, Sandy Close, Sandy Lane, Tears Lane

PARBOLD
- Beacon Crossing, Lathom Avenue, Lindley Drive, Tanfield Nook, The Common, The Green, The Heys
- Brandreth Delph, Brandreth Park, Croasdale Drive, Lancaster Lane, Miry Lane, Park Close, Stoney Lane, The Delph

DIGMOOR
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ASHURST
- Langtree, Lindens
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- Eastleigh, Elmers Green, Elmers Green Lane, Evington, Feltons Mews

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QUEENSCOURT *2000*
DRAW RESULTS

This week's £1,500 Prize Winner lives in Boundary Lane, Preston
£1,500 = 15095 £100 = 273334

Winners of £20 are as follows:

18391	15686
26201	16418
22414	203078
28153	24046
15059	13202
29316	21819
330702	22956
11847	354170
345166	15367
63666	18261

JOSPICE LOTTERY WINNERS

Friday 15th September 2017

£1000..Mrs Lynch from Blundellsands
£250.....Mrs McAleese from Formby
£100.....Mrs Dunne from Crosby
Plus 15 other winners of £10 each

Announcements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MUIR ARTHUR

Beryl and the family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours, for all the messages of condolence, sympathy cards, support, and donations received during their recent sad loss of Arthur. Special thanks to the family Doctor and all the care team for all their kindness and care, also to Rev. Sarah O'Donoghue for her kind word of comfort, and to Sally Hunter and Team at MLS Independent Funeral directors, for all care and dignified Funeral arrangement.

STUTTARD MICHAEL GEORGE

Nina, David and Alison would like to express their heartfelt thanks to relatives and friends for all the messages of condolence, sympathy cards and donations for Queenscourt Hospice, received during their recent sad loss. Thanks also to Pete Goulding for his kind words of comfort at the service, to Staff of Cherry Tree Lodge, particularly Nicky and Kim and also all the staff at Queenscourt Hospice for their care to Michael and his family. Thank you to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, for their dignified funeral arrangements.

MORLEY THOMAS

24th August 2017

Tom's loving Wife Emily wishes to thank their lovely family, many friends and their neighbours in Ince Blundell for the cards, expression of sympathy and support during this sad time. Special thanks to Fr D. Gamble and Rev John Crooks for the beautiful service and their kind words. Gratitude and thanks to Coyne Bros Funeral Directors (Formby) for their professionalism and sensitivity. Special thank you to her and Tom's friends and Carers at Roby House for their support and caring ways. It meant so much.
Emily x

ANNIVERSARIES

BARBARA & JOE WYNN

Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary

Saturday 7th October

Lots of Love from Stephen, Dawn, Laura, Paul, Garry, Andy, Tamsyn, Jacob, Cerys, Shauna, Louise, Tim, Joe, Noah & Bailey xxx

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

DENHAM DOYLE CHRISTOPHER

19th September 1956

Birthday memories of my beautiful Husband. Birthday gifts are being sent on the wings of the Angels, to where you went. These gifts are of love and the things you cant buy, to celebrate your birthday spent up in the sky.
Happy Birthday Darling.
Love and miss you always.
Your broken hearted Wife
Joan
xx

DENHAM DOYLE CHRISTOPHER

19th September 1956

Birthday memories of our Dad.
We miss you so much Dad.
On your birthday, what would we give, to clasp your hand, your happy face to see, to hear your voice and see your smile, that meant so much to we.
The rolling stream of life rolls on, but still the vacant chair, recalls the love, the voice, the smile of our Dad who once sat there.
Happy birthday Dad.
Love and miss you always.
Christopher, Raymond, Michael, Gary and all their families
xx

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

DENHAM DOYLE CHRISTOPHER

19th September 1956

A special Son
Sadly missed
Love you
Dad
x

DEATHS

SERGEANT CHRISTINA

Died suddenly at home on the 15th September 2017 aged 85 years

Service and committal will take place in West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough, L40 7SP on Wednesday 27th September at 10 am. Family flowers only but donations if desired for Cancer Research. Further enquiries to Cooksons Funeral Services, Burscough. Tel: 01704 897770

LONSDALE MARY WINFRED

2nd September 2017
Peacefully in Hospital
Aged 87 years

Much loved Sister of Teresa (Deceased) and Margaret. A beloved Aunty of Clare, John, Julie, Philip, Ruth, Peter and Richard, also a dear and faithful Cousin of John Lonsdale.
A Requiem Mass will be offered on Tuesday 26th of September at St Teresa's Church Upholland at 12:00 noon followed by Interment in the churchyard. Family flowers only please donations if desired to Cardinal Heenan House c/o and all enquiries to W. Banks of Orrell Sefton Villa, Sefton Road, Orrell Tel: 01695 622272

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DEATHS

SPENCER ROBERT (Bob)

From Bickerstaffe

Owner of Scarth Hill Garage

Passed away peacefully on Tuesday September 12th

Aged 68 years

Sorely missed by Wife Bernadette, Brother Edward, Sister Rachel and children Charlotte and Richard, plus his four beloved Grandchildren. Funeral will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bickerstaffe at 2pm on Friday 22nd September, all welcome. Flowers welcome or donations, if desired, for Birch Green Care Home. Donations and enquiries to Craven Funeral Directors, 16 Derby Street West, Ormskirk, L39 3NH. Tel: 01695 577200

GEE NORMA

15th September 2017

Peacefully in hospital

Aged 83 Years

Reunited with her Husband Jimmy. Much Loved Mum of Elaine, Wendy and Sons in Law Bob and Larry. Dear Nan of all her Grand and Great-Grandchildren. "We miss you Mum you will always be in our Hearts " Service and Cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street Burscough on Wednesday 27th September at 12.15 pm. All enquires to Graham J Clegg Funeral Service Tel 0151 520 3330.

JONES PAMULA DENISE

13th September 2017

Suddenly in Hospital

Aged 64 years

of Skelmersdale

Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough L40 7SP on Friday 22nd September 2017 at 3:15pm. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman of H. Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick Tel: 01695 722122/720012

SINGLETON ALAN

11th September 2017

After a short illness.

Aged 76 Years

Former Police Inspector (Merseyside). Much loved Husband of Pauline. Loved Dad of Julie. Dear Grandad of Chris, Kathryn, Louise and Kerry. Great Grandad of Michael, Riley, Logan, Olivia, Winnie and Reuben. Service and Cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Tuesday 26th September at 12.15pm. Family flowers only please but Donations if desired for Cancer Research UK c/o Graham J Clegg Funeral Service, 7 Dover Road Maghull L31 5JB. Tel 0151 520 3330 or via www.cleggfunerals.co.uk

JENNINGS MAY

13th September 2017

Aged 98 years

Loving wife of the late Walter. Dear mum to David and the late Alan, Beloved mother-in-law of Elaine. Cherished grandma to all of her grandchildren. May will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 22nd September at 12:40pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Alzheimer's Society. Donations and enquires to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

ATKINSON DAVID

14th September 2017

Aged 76 years

Peacefully in

Argyle Park Nursing Home

Formerly of Ainsdale

Much loved Husband of Julia, loving and caring Father of Paul, Helen and Janet. Devoted Grandfather of Claire, Michael, Liam and Thomas, cherished Brother of Barbara. David will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 26th September at 10:40am. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Multiple Sclerosis Society UK (www.mssociety.org.uk). Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 82 Station Road, Ainsdale, PR8 3HW. Telephone: 01704 577786.

MAWDSLEY ALAN

Of Halsall

Born 9th May 1929

Died quietly on the morning of

13th September 2017

Loving Husband of Joyce, Father of Angela and Paul, Grandfather of Louise, Sean, Adam and Benjamin. Great-Grandfather of Amelia. He will be loved & missed by all. Family flowers only by request, donations if so desired for the Alzheimer's Society. For Funeral arrangements and further enquiries please contact Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk. Tele: 01695 424888

SANDERS PAULINE (NEE McDermott)

September 16th 2017

Peacefully at

Craignair Rest Home

aged 85 years

Dearly loved Wife of the late John. Beloved Mum of Ann Marie, Paul, Kathryn and Helen. Mum-In-Law of Joe, Linzi, Vin, and Phil. Loving Grandma of Nick, Matt, Emma, Tom, John, Gemma, Anna and Sarah. Funeral Mass to be held at St. Peter and St Paul's Church Crosby on Friday September 22nd at 12 noon. Followed by Cremation at Southport Crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Alzheimer's Research. C/o Peter Coyne Funeral Service 475 Queens Drive, Walton L4 8TY Tel: 0151 226 7999

ABRAM GLENN NIGEL

On 2nd September 2017

Suddenly at home

Aged 50 years

Much loved Dad of Luke and Joy, dear granddad of Zachary, loving Son of Colin and Pat and Dear Brother of Wayne. Glenn will be sadly missed by all his family and many friends. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 22nd September at 11:20am. Flowers or donations if so desired for 'Mind'. Flowers, Donations and further enquiries please M Rushton Funeral Directors 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG Tel: 01704 214118

KEWLEY GEOFF

September 8th 2017

Peacefully in Hospital

After a short illness

Aged 74 years.

Reunited with his dear Wife Barb. Dad of Helen and Claire. Grandad of Natalie. A proud Ambassador and President of Marine Football Club. Geoff will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Service and Cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium on Friday September 22nd 2017 at 1pm. No flowers please but if desired donations to Marine FC or The British Lung Foundation. C/o H. Leslie Humpreys 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby, L23 5SE Tel: 0151 924 4805

IN MEMORIAM

TAYLOR JIMMY

22nd February 1944 - 19th September 2016

The words of love are many and yet I can not start, To tell you what a special place you hold within my heart. The years we shared together have held both sun and rain but Jimmy I would give anything to live them with you again. Loved and missed always Your loving Wife Joyce, Children Paul, Julie and Leeanne, Son-in-law David. Grandchildren Jake, Luke, Amber and Nicole, Great Granddaughters Lily Rose and Lola Grace xxxx

MCCULLEY SARAH

20th September 2005

You left us beautiful memories, Your love is still my guide, Though we cannot see you, You're always by my side. Loving Husband Ray xx

IN MEMORIAM

HARRIS CATHERINE HELEN

24th September 2015

92 years

Two years have passed and you are still in our thoughts and conversations and sadly missed.

Muriel, Don, Graham, Paul, Rachael and Paul

XXXXXX

IN MEMORIAM

BALL COLIN GEOFFREY

Passed away 3 years ago

23rd September 2014

To hear your voice, to see you smile, to sit and talk to you a while, to be together in the same old way, would be our dearest wish today. Loved and Remembered Everyday Deborah, Jasmine and Elliot xxx

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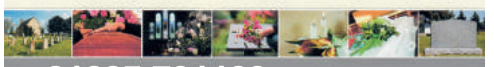

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 15 PUBLICITY FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
PLANNING APPLICATION NO - LCC/2017/0072
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT - MODIFICATION OF APPROVED DRAWINGS ATTACHED TO PLANNING PERMISSION LCC/2015/0061 TO PERMIT CHANGES IN THE HUB HEIGHT AND BLADE SIZE OF THE PROPOSED WING TURBINES AND MINOR AMENDMENTS TO THE SITE LAYOUT AT HILLHOUSE WASTE WATER TREATMENT WORKS, WOOD LANE, GREAT ALTCAR

I give notice that United Utilities is applying to the Lancashire County Council for the above development.

The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area.

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application, plans and documents at Lancashire County Council, Development Management Group, County Hall, PO Box 100, Preston, PR1 0LD or at the Planning Department, West Lancashire Borough Council, Council Offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, during normal office hours until 11 October 2017.The application can also be viewed on the County Council's website **planningregister.lancashire.gov.uk**

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the County Council by 11 October 2017 at the above address, via email DevCon@lancashire.gov.uk or via 'Have your Say' on the County Council's website.

Information regarding the decision will be available on the website within 5 working days of the decision. Details on how to speak at the Development Control Committee are also available on the web page

Andy Mullaney, Head of Service for Planning and Environment
On Behalf of Lancashire County Council
Date: 20 September 2017

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(LEES LANE, DALTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Lees Lane, Dalton from its junction with Higher Lane, Dalton to its junction with Appley Lane South, Appley Bridge.

2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0800 hours until 1700 on Monday 2nd October 2017 until Friday 6th October or until completion of the works within this period.

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Higher Lane - A5209 Alder Lane - A5209 Parbold Hill - A5209 Sparrow Hill - A5209 Hall Lane - B5375 Appley Lane North - Appley Lane South and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow drainage works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/8643/SN]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

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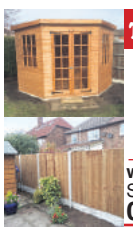

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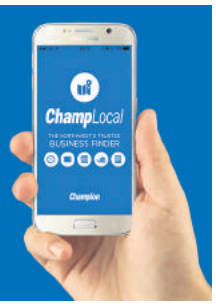

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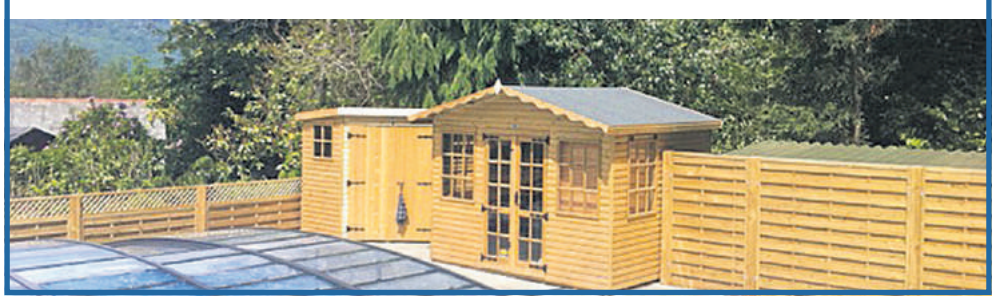

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Classics like this MGB GT V8 will no longer need an MoT

"IT'S ABOUT the Toyota," the voice on the other end of the line crackled. "I'm afraid it's going to need a bit of work."

The news from the garage came as a bit of a shock. The 1998 Avensis that I've been running around in for the past few months isn't particularly renowned for its country lane prowess, and it's so dull that I can't even recall what it looks like, but it is the single most reliable thing I've ever owned.

I'd also checked it fastidiously before it visited the MoT station, so I wasn't expecting it to fail.

In the end I coughed up to have a sticky rear brake sorted and I was back on the road an hour later, but if the same problem pops up on my 1972 MGB GT next summer I needn't bother.

As of next May if my 19-year-old Japanese repmobile develops a glitch I'll have to fix it before it can earn its annual ticket, but my 45-year-old piece of British Leyland heritage won't legally be required to go into the garage at all.

Which – and I choose my words carefully, lest I be whisked away in a mysterious car belonging to the Department for Transport – is complete madness.

The aforementioned Avensis has never broken down, shed any of its components or so much as hiccupped over 12 months, but the fact that the MoT testers picked up the sticky brake on one of their machines means they were able to spot something I'd have missed otherwise.

If a bombproof motorway cruiser (with a fresh set of tyres, belts and barely 30,000 miles on the clock, before you ask) can fail, then what horrors is my MGB or any other fortysomething classic car harbouring?

Nor do I buy the Government's argument that we'll still be able to take classic cars in for inspection voluntarily; owners of pre-1960 cars, which have already been exempted for the last five years, simply don't bother. The Department for Transport's own figures show that only 6% of them take their old cars in for an MoT, given the choice.

The upshot is that this time next year there'll be quite a few Ford Cortinas, Austin 1100s and MG Midgets rattling along Britain's roads with no MoT whatsoever – and the thought of one of them suffering some critical component failure at the wrong moment troubles me. The Government reckons the risk involved is very, very small, but I'd rather there'd be no risk at all.

My MGB won't be among that number, and if you own a tax-exempt classic car I'd urge you in the strongest possible terms to carry on getting it checked. Even if that means getting a few unexpectedly expensive phone calls…

David Simister is editor of Classic Car Weekly

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Amount of Credit	£11,310.54	**APR Representative**	5.2%
47 Monthly Payments	£179.00		

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Scrappage Allowance	£2000.00	Annual Mileage	5,000
Finance Deposit Allowance	£2000.00	Total Amount Payable	£18,599.00
Amount of Credit	£14,654.07	**APR Representative**	4.2%
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4 years finance available on selected cars. Scrappage available on selected cars. Up to £2400 finance deposit allowance available on Mokka only, allowances will differ on other models. £3500 registration allowance available on Cascada only, allowance will differ on other models and is not available in conjunction with any other offers. Best price guaranteed must be a written quotation and within a 30-mile radius of 06 Vauxhall Ormskirk. We buy any car offer only on part-exchange for new passenger car orders from 1st September, which are subsequently registered by 30th September. On top of other offers excluding Scrappage, Partners and Associates discounts and B2B. The vehicle must be subject to an appraisal of its true condition at a Vauxhall participating Retailer. The offer will be £1,000 more than WeBuyAnyCar.Com's valuation based on the true appraisal. Participating Retailers only. Terms and Conditions apply. See Vauxhall.co.uk/webuyanycartoo. Correct at time of going to press.

Champion MOTORS

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Ford reveals plans to start slimming down family cars

The Vignale is the range-topping version of the Ford Mondeo

FORD is slimming down its Mondeo range – bringing the versions of its family car down from seven to five.

You'll now be able to choose from the entry-level Zetec, the sporty ST-Line and ST Line Edition models, and the more luxurious Titanium and Vignale offerings, all of which are now fitted with digital audio, sat nav, and low speed autonomous braking.

The simplified range arrives in November, with prices starting at £19,445.

Chery to roll out off-roader

CHANCES are you won't have heard of Chery, but you'll be seeing quite a few of its cars on our roads from next year.

The first of the Chinese manufacturer's offerings is the EXEED TX, a small off-roader that'll compete with the likes of Nissan's Juke.

There's no word on prices yet, but it'll be available as a hybrid, a plug-in hybrid or a fully electric vehicle when it arrives in the showrooms.

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2009 (09) MERCEDES CLC 180 KOMPRESSOR AUTOMATIC COUPE 180 SE, in storm grey, with A/C, Bluetooth, CC, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, 1 owner from new, with full MB service history, only 31,000 miles £7,995
2015 (15) FORD B-MAX ZETEC AUTOMATIC, in burnished glow, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY SIX THOUSAND MILES £9,995
2015 (64) FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5DR, in moondust silver, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY SIXTEEN THOUSAND MILES £8,495
2014 (64) RENAULT CAPTUR DYNAMIQUE, in cream and black, with A/C, sat nav, e/pack, alloys, ONLY FOUR THOUSAND MILES £10,995
2014 (64) VOLKSWAGEN UP 1.0 MOVE UP 5DR, in blue, with A/C, e/pack, ABS, CD etc, ONLY TWELVE THOUSAND MILES £6,995
2014 (64) PEUGEOT 108 ALLURE 5DR, in red, A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY ELEVEN THOUSAND MILES £7,995
2014 (14) NISSAN NEW QASHQAI ACENTA, in met bronze, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY FIVE THOUSAND MILES £12,495
2014 (14) FORD B-MAX ZETEC, in moondust silver, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY TWELVE THOUSAND MILES £8,495
2014 (14) TOYOTA YARIS ICON PLUS 5DR, in met blue, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY SEVEN THOUSAND MILES £8,695
2014 (14) NISSAN NEW NOTE ACENTA PREMIUM AUTOMATIC, in white with comfort pack, air con, electric pack, alloys, CD etc ONLY FOUR THOUSAND MILES £9,495
2014 (14) CITROEN DS3 DESIGN 1.2 CABRIO, in white/black, with power roof, e/pack, ABS, CD etc, ONLY ELEVEN THOUSAND MILES £7,995
2013 (63) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA DESIGN, 7 seater, in red, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY THIRTEEN THOUSAND MILES £7,995
2013 (63) FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5DR, in blue candy, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY ELEVEN THOUSAND MILES £7,995
2013 (13) VAUXHALL NEW ASTRA CDTI ELITE 5DR DIESEL, in lava red, with A/C, full leather, e/pack, alloys, CC, Bluetooth etc, only 12,000 miles £7,995
2012 (62) PEUGEOT NEW 208 ACTIVE 1.2, in silver, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 24,000 miles £5,995
2011 (60) VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 SE, in pepper dust, with A/C, panoramic roof, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 42,000 miles £4,995
2010 (60) TOYOTA AURIS SR 5DR, in steel grey, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 47,000 miles £5,495
2010 (59) HYUNDAI I30 COMFORT 5DR, in silver, with full spec, only 46,000 miles £3,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA AUTOMATIC, in red with PAS, ABS, e/pack, CD etc., 40,000 miles £4,295
2008 (08) VOLVO S 40 SALOON 1.6, in metallic red, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 79,000 miles £3,895
2007 (57) LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 DIESEL, in met blue, with full spec, 81,000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) RENAULT CLIO 1.2 EXPRESSION 5DR, in silver, with A/C, e/pack, ABS, CD etc, only 68,000 miles £2,695
2006 (06) CITROEN C3 DESIRE 5DR, in met red, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 54,000 miles £2,495

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14 MITSUBISHI ASX 3 DI-D 1.8 DIESEL 2WD, met red, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, alloys, 29,000 miles £9,495
14 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR, met silver, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, sat nav, 1200cc, 6,700 miles only £5,995
13 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI SE 5DR, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, alloys, 29,000 miles only, alloys, A/C, ABS £8,995
62 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVTI 5DR, 1329cc, PAS, E/W, C/L, media, 16,000 miles, A/C, ABS, low insurance £5,995
62 AUDI A1 SE 5DR 1.6 TDI, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, ABS, alloys, 33,000 miles £8,995
13 CITROEN DS3+ 1.6, white/purple roof, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, alloys, 1 owner, 22,000 miles only £6,395
13 VW PASSAT SE TDI DIESEL, met black, 80,000 miles £7,495
12 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1400cc PETROL, new shape, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, ABS, 58,000 miles £3,995
60 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA EXCLUSIV CDTI 5DR, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, service history, 100,000 miles £3,495
08 MERCEDES A CLASS 180 CDI DIESEL 5DR, met grey, PAS, E/W, C/L, 65,000 miles, service history £2,495
07 FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 3DR, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, alloys, high miles £1,495
56 SAAB 9-3 VECTOR 1.9 TDI, met blue, half leather, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, alloys, 100,000 miles, service history £1,695
08 FIAT GRAND PUNTO 1.4 5DR, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, alloys, 64,000 miles, full history £1,995

CONVERTIBLES

56 VW BEETLE 1.4 LUNA, met blue, biege hood, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, CD, alloys, 79,000 miles £2,395
52 SAAB 9-3 LPT, met silver, full black leather, PAS, E/W, electric hood, ABS, A/C, alloys, 82,000 miles, lady owned £2,295
56 CHEVROLET TACUMA SX 1600cc MPV, 5spd, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, 76,000 miles £1,395
56 VAUXHALL COMBO VAN 1700 DIESEL, white, PAS, A/C, C/L, CD, 6spd, very clean £1,595
55 RENAULT CLIO CAMPUS SPORT 3DR, 1200cc, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, alloys, CD £1,295
05 VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 3DR DIESEL 1300cc, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, CD, alloys, 5spd £1,395
54 RENAULT MEGANE 1900 DIESEL, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, CD, alloys £1,195
53 ROVER 75 CLASSIC SE 1800cc 5spd petrol, met gold, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, 64,000 miles £1,495
00 P MERCEDES SLK 230 K AUTO, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, electric folding hard top, leather, alloys, 60,000 miles £2,695
R SAAB 9-5 2.0 LPT MANUAL, 5spd, met grey, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, leather, alloys, service history £695
99 V VW GOLF MK4 V5 5DR 2-3, 5 cylinder petrol, met silver, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, ABS, multispace, alloys £1,495

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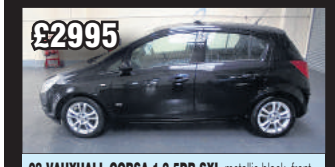
£2995
08 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 5DR SXI, metallic black, front fog lights, CD player, alloy wheels, front electric windows, remote c/locking

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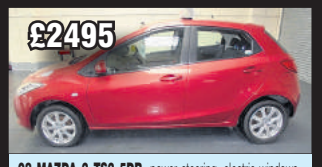
59 CITROEN C3 AIR DREAM PLUS HDI 5DR DIESEL, metallic silver C3 tax is only £20 a year, CD player, air con, electric windows, central locking, power steering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08 MAZDA 2 TS2 5DR, power steering, electric windows, central locking CD player, keyless entry

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09 FORD FUSION ZETEC TDCI 1.4, metallic grey, fully colour coded handles, bumpers and side protectors, 40,000 miles, electric windows and mirrors, remote c/locking, alloy wheels

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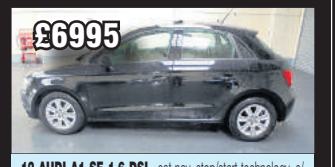
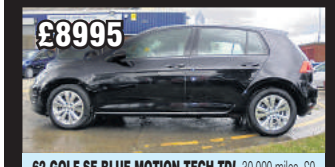
10 CITROEN PICASSO DESIRE 1.6 PETROL, metallic silver, 96,725 miles, LED dashboard, elec windows, c/locking, power steering


£6995
12 AUDI A1 SE 1.6 DSL, sat nav, stop/start technology, c/locking, alloy wheels, climate control, elec windows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62 GOLF SE BLUE MOTION TECH TDI, 30,000 miles, £0 payable for road tax, 8 inputs in service history, stop/start technology, air con, c/locking, CD player

£1995
56 VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.2, electric windows, 113,000 miles, power steering, CD player, immaculate little runner

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58 FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 125 BHP, electric windows, air con, remote c/locking, Bluetooth, radio

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10 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA, metallic grey, 110,000 miles, cruise control, air con, remote locking, amazing spec £3495
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07 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 5DR SPORT, metallic grey, 78k miles, air con, CD player, electric windows, remote c/locking, clean bodywork, lovely drive £2495
07 SEAT LEON 5DR PETROL, metallic black, 68,000 miles, remote central locking, electric windows, air con, immaculate bodywork £2495
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57 RENAULT CLIO 1.2L 3DR EXPRESSION, 67,000 miles, metallic blue, full panoramic glass roof, central locking, air con excellent drive £1995
56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 3DR, metallic silver, £20 a year road tax, 68,000 miles, beautiful car, electric windows, CD player, alloys £1995
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14 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 5DR 1.7 CDTI 130PS EXCLUSIV S/S, SILVER 16897 MILES £10999
66 REG VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4I 100PS CLUB A/C, SILVER 10826 MILES £10999
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58 Reg Vauxhall Corsa 1.2i 16v Active 3dr
• Star Silver • 48020 Miles

Cash Price £4,499 — NO DEPOSIT & £89 PER MONTH

10 Reg Fiat 500 Pop 1.2
• White • 35000 Miles

Cash Price £4,999 — NO DEPOSIT & £99 PER MONTH

61 Reg Vauxhall Corsa Excite 1.2 A/C
• White • 26359 Miles

Cash Price £5,999 — NO DEPOSIT & £119 PER MONTH

64 Reg Vauxhall Corsa 1.2i VVT Excite A/C
• Blue • 25498 Miles

Cash Price £6,296 — NO DEPOSIT & £125 PER MONTH

64 Reg Vauxhall Adam 1.2 70PS Jam
• Red & Roll • 27595 Miles

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65 REG FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.2 3DR, WHITE 35114 MILES £6996
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.4 90PS SRI ECOFLEX, RED 30582 MILES £6999
13 REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 5DR 1.6I 16V 115PS EXCLUSIV, ASTEROID GREY 27603 MILES £6999
62 REG PEUGEOT 3008 ACTIVE HDI, BLACK 55000 MILES £6999
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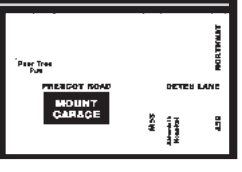

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Ormskirk narrowly fail in bid for national glory

ORMSKIRK'S bid to become the first Liverpool & District Cricket Competition to win the Royal London Club Championship or National Knockout as its better known, ended in a narrow defeat to Wanstead and Snaresbrook at the County ground in Chelmsford on Sunday, *writes Glenn Wallworth.*

Ormskirk won the toss and elected to field and bowled Wanstead out for 159 with Arfan Akram top scoring with 38, whilst Tom Hartley 2-25, Josh Bohannon 2-32 and Scott Lees 2-34 were amongst the wicket takers. In reply, Michael Jones top scored with 40 and skipper Matt Glayzer batted valiantly for his 34, but some tight bowling swung the game in the latter overs as Ormskirk were dismissed for 147 with Jack Lord taking 4-33.

Ormskirk were crowned Liverpool Competition Premier Division champions a couple of weeks ago and played no part in the last round of league fixtures.

Bootle ensured they clinched the runners up spot with a six wicket home win against New Brighton. The visitors were asked to bat and dismissed for 115 with Will Purser taking 4-31. In reply, Jackson Knight playing his last match for the hosts hit an unbeaten 58 and Vishal Tripathi 48 as Bootle reached 118-4 to wrap up victory, with Ashraf Nawab taking 4-37.

Two out of three from Ainsdale, Formby and Southport & Birkdale faced relegation at the beginning of the day and by the end of it Formby were the ones celebrating survival, they secured their top flight status with an eight wicket at Rainhill, the hosts elected to bat and apart from Tyler McGladdery with 68, the rest failed to come to terms with the spin of Gary Keedy 6-44 as they were dismissed for 121. In reply, an unbeaten third wicket stand of 108* between Sam Oldham 52* and Daniel Stanley 44* then led Formby to safety and victory on 122-2.

Southport & Birkdale's match at Colwyn Bay was shortened by the weather and after delayed start S&B were asked to bat, Brad Yates 66 and Adam Phillips 54 opened up with a century stand to enable the visitors to declare on 190-5. In reply, an unbeaten 81* from Zac Gidlow plus 55 from Johansen and 41 from Leach took the hosts to victory on 191-5.

Ainsdale were beaten by nine wickets at Northern who clinched fifth spot, the visitors were asked to bat and quickly dismissed for 79 with Tom Sephton spinning his way to 5-24. In reply, Jack Boardman 39* and Liam Grey 26* propelled the hosts to victory in the 10th over on 82-1.

Sixth place finish for Burscough after easy win

IN the First Division, Burscough finished sixth after a 148 run win at Hightown St Mary's.

The visitors chose to bat and thanks to skipper John Stone 61 and Brendan Domigan 60 were able to declare on 230-5

In reply, 4-22 from usual wicketkeeper Michael Bimpson and 3-17 from Dan Unsworth helped dismiss the hosts for 82, meaning Hightown St Mary's were the only first team in the league without a victory all season.

Frustration for Linnets as they pay price for missed chances

Widnes 3
Burscough 0

SOMETIMES the score doesn't always tell the full story of a football match, a statement which I am sure the Burscough fans who agree after this Monday night clash, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

The young energetic Burscough side had far more of the possession than Widnes but still returned home a well beaten side.

It was Burscough who initially seemed to deal best with the sodden artificial surface, forcing Widnes onto the defensive with their mobility and sharp passing game.

However, all the Linnets' neat interplay only succeeded in producing a shot from Adam Gilchrist that went well off target.

Instead they suffered something of sucker punch in the 14th minute.

Widnes number eleven Chris Lomax got free down the left and drove a cross into the heart of the Burscough penalty area, former Skelmersdale striker Chad Whyte was able to run onto the ball and send it crashing into the net from eight yards via a stooping header.

Burscough problem was that they were not opening up an entrenched Widnes defence and when they did on 20 minutes Prince Ekpolo elected to pass the ball when a shot at goal would at the very least have had made Widnes goalkeeper Richie Mottram pull off a good save.

Burscough were punished again on 29 minutes when only the host's second attempt on goal produced a second goal.

Tony Donaldson lofted a free-kick into the penalty area and it was cleared, only to fall perfectly to Widnes captain Kevin Pollard, who put a thunderous shot into the Burscough goal to make it 2-0.

It was becoming frustrating for Burscough who on the balance of play didn't deserve to be two goals behind but on 32 minutes it became even more so. Christy Devlin saw a well struck shot deflected for a corner. Gilchrist's corner appeared to be set to land on a Burscough head at the far post, then out of nowhere Widnes number five Michael Burke put in a superb saving header to sweep the ball to safety.

On 53 minutes Devlin fired over the home crossbar, on 57 minutes Hafeez Hamzat header over the bar off a Devlin free-kick, then on 69 minutes Terry Cummings was put in on goal but when he should have shot he took on an extra man and the chance was gone. The frustration intensified.

With fourteen minutes to go Burscough lost possession inside the Widnes half and the ball was quickly played onto the home teams right-wing.

All the time Towey was on the run down the left, almost inevitably the ball was delivered across the pitch and an unmarked Towey killed off the Linnets hopes with a third Widnes goal.

With the destination of the points decided Widnes held Burscough at arm's length and as a spectacle the game petered out before the end.

Confidence low for missfiring Skem

Radcliffe Borough 4
Skelmersdale United 1

SKELMERSDALE were their own worst enemy when they conceded a bizarre own goal in a confidence sapping defeat.

In the early stages Skem were on top but on 34 minutes shot themselves in the foot with a bizarre own goal.

Jonathan Crane sent a back-pass to keeper Sims who was not where Crane thought he was.

Sims got back to clear the ball but a goal was given by the assistant referee who said it crossed the goal-line.

Skem went back on the offensive but on 42 minutes got unlucky again.

Andy Owens was put in by a neat through ball, he rounded a defender and smashed a right-foot shot that missed the post by a couple of inches and hit the stanchion instead.

Between the restart after the interval and the hour mark Skem went near to levelling three times. Andy Owens free-kick went over the crossbar, then Codling put a volley wide, the best chance fell to Richard Brodie on 60 minutes.

The ball was switched left to right and was quickly played back into the goalmouth where the big striker looked to have the goal at his mercy, but hit the bar from around ten yards out.

In the 68th minute Stanislav Zhekov, from a wide position 10 yards from goal, with almost no back-lift at all he hit a shot across Sims and into the net via the far post to make it 2-0.

The third home goal came in the 75th minute and it was well crafted. An early ball from the right caught Skem's defence out and the ball found its way to Zhekov on the left of the penalty area. Sims left his line to close Zhekov down and Jason Jeffries joined him, however the number eleven cleverly dummied the Skem pair and dinked the ball over them and over the line to make it 3-0.

Radcliffe made it 4-0 five minutes from full-time. A corner was driven into the six yard box from the right; Gavin Ellison held off a Skem defender and flicked a header into the net.

Two minutes into added time they got a goal, the ball was played low into the goalmouth and Brodie scored from about eight yards.

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